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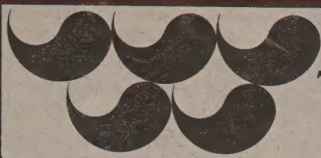
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naidex'88

**DN's
preview
9-11**



'88 SEOUL PARALYMPICS

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DHSS delay slammed by Ombudsman

The Parliamentary Ombudsman, Sir Anthony Barrowclough, has condemned the DHSS for an "appalling" and "inexcusable" 3-year delay in dealing with the cases of 2 deaf men.

The cases have highlighted how almost impossible it is for disabled people to appeal against local authority decisions over services without going to court to take expensive legal action.

Ivor Barlow of Wolverhampton and James Aitchison of North Tyneside are both profoundly deaf and applied to their respective social services departments for a Vistel deaf communicating terminal (DCT), a keyboard device for use with a telephone.

Both departments refused on the grounds that the aids were desirable but not essential.

The men went to the British Deaf Association for help, which in turn appealed to the Secretary of State for Social Services, Nicholas Scott, to use his statutory powers to investigate what the BDA claimed was a breach of duty under the 1970 Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons Act. (This requires social services departments to provide "any special equipment necessary...to use a telephone.")

The BDA first wrote to Nicholas Scott about Mr Barlow's case in August 1984 and about Mr Aitchison's in October 1985.

Letters between the DHSS (now the DSS) and BDA continued for 3 years until the BDA asked Labour MP Alf Morris to intervene. He referred the cases to the Ombudsman.



James Aitchison (right) now has a DCT. Ivor Barlow hasn't.

Finally, in March 1988, the DHSS decided that the Secretary of State did not have the powers to intervene in the cases.

The Ombudsman's reports find the complaints on behalf of both men to be "fully justified".

"I have never read stronger criticism of any department of state from the Ombudsman," commented Alf Morris. "The Minister should not only have acted more quickly but also more decisively to protect severely disabled people."

The BDA's development officer, Bob Peckford says: "The ex-

perience and outcome of the 2 cases has wider implications than just the way the DHSS handled them.

"It affects all disabled people who are refused services by local authorities because they have no local right of appeal. Their only course of action is to go to the Secretary of State or the courts."

The Secretary of State has "default" powers to order a local authority to carry out its duties.

But Bob Peckford says: "The DHSS has chosen to interpret the default powers so narrowly as to make them almost useless. It didn't say in March *why* it reached that decision or *how* it will be applied in future."

The only way to introduce an effective means of appeal, he thinks, is to amend the law or bring a test case to clarify it.

The principal officer for the DHSS has apologised to the BDA, Ivor Barlow and James Aitchison and says the department has reviewed its procedures for handling alleged default cases.

Meanwhile Mr Aitchison's local authority has provided him with a DCT; Mr Barlow's has not. The device costs around £100.

There are over a million deaf people in Britain. A DCT is their only independent and confidential means of using the telephone.

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NHS won't fund expensive deafness implant

A high-tech solution to profound deafness, first used in Britain last August, is being denied to thousands of patients because the Department of Health claims it is still experimental.

Marylyn Graham, 41, was fitted with the 22-channel electronic cochlear implant by surgeons at Manchester Royal Infirmary.

The £10,000 cost was met by the charity HEAR (Help Ear and Allied Research), founded by Manchester businessman Lawrence Cleary.

Mrs Graham had been completely deaf since 1986, but the implant has allowed her to hear speech and some other sounds.

HEAR has money for only 2 more operations. But Junior Health Minister Edwina Currie says the NHS will not fund any implants, because it regards the Australian-designed device as still experimental.

Mike Whitlam, chief executive of the RNID, says more than 5,000 people in the UK could benefit from the operation, and has called on the Department of Health to take responsibility for a full programme.

Surgeons too are lobbying the



Mrs Graham: "You feel you be long again".

Department of Health, claiming that Mrs Graham is proof that the system works.

The implant is the thickness of a hair, contains a microchip and works by directly stimulating the auditory nerve. It is connected to a tiny microphone hidden behind the ear and a battery powered speech processor the size of a personal stereo.

Such implants are only useful for people who have sensorineural deafness, when the auditory nerve may be in working order but the inner ear or cochlea fail to respond to sound.

No Income Support for students

Thousands of 16 and 17-year-olds with learning and physical disabilities will be forced to join YTS courses they cannot cope with or sit at home, as a result of new Income Support regulations, claims the National Bureau for Students with Disabilities.

On 12 September the Government abolished Income Support for this age group on the grounds that all young people can join a YTS scheme.

Severely disabled or blind people can continue to receive the benefit if they get a doctor's note certifying their disability. So too can people disabled for less than 12 months.

But those who have mild or moderate learning difficulties or physical disabilities lose the right to Income Support.

This means that they will have to join a YTS if their parents cannot support them.

"I think it is disastrous," said Richard Stowell, director of the NBSD. "Many young people are not prepared to be labelled sev-

erely mentally disabled. And many of those with learning or physical disabilities are not ready for YTS at 16 or 17."

Around 4,000 do 1 or 2 year bridging courses after they leave school, to prepare them for vocational training or jobs. But without Income Support most could not afford to take courses.

Richard Stowell fears that many courses will collapse. He knows of 4 in Scotland which have been cut.

"Some will cope on YTS but many more will get nothing out of it," he said. "A lot may just sit at home, lose the skills they acquired at school and become more and more unemployable."

The new regulations also discriminate against those over 19 on residential courses, who can no longer claim full board and lodgings allowance, says Brian Jones, Head of Halliwick College, London. His MP, Dr Ian Twinn, will introduce an amendment to reverse the rule in the next session.

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DN4

Letters to the Editor

Disability Now 12 Park Crescent London W1N 4EQ

Profiting whom?

May I reply to Tina Stevens' article "Are your grumbles justified?" (DN August).

In the long run the only people concerned about disabled people are the disabled person and their immediate family.

Firms that manufacture and service various aids used by disabled people know they have a captive source of income. Their sole interest is to maximise profits for themselves and their shareholders. An able bodied person can do without a motorised lawnmower, but a handicapped person needs a wheelchair or similar vehicle, usually battery operated, if he/she is to avoid being housebound.

It is about time manufacturers and servicing firms took a little less profit and started giving us a square deal for a change.

Marjorie Phillips

Secretary
Gloucester City Access Group

Expanding on the excerpts you used from my letter in "Are your grumbles justified?" I have had excellent service from the manufacturer of my buggy, Elva. If I have required spares, I have had return of post or immediate despatch in response to a telephone order.

But do manufacturers carry out any type of market research as to what the disabled want? Or is what they offer what they think we want? Do they think that the majority of their customers are elderly? Is it beyond the bounds of their imagination to supply a customising service or reasonably priced accessories?

When I called at my local cycle shop, I found the identical shopping basket as the "special" one for my chair at £9.25. The "special" had cost £18.

On asking the price from Elva

for replacement batteries, I was quoted a "special" price of £110. It was special indeed; I purchased identical batteries, same manufacturer and model, from a local battery supplier for £77. This must surely be a rip off.

How many disabled people know that in certain circumstances such as batteries there is a VAT exemption? An explanatory leaflet is available from the local Customs & Excise office.

I apologise for rambling on but I feel that the disabled, who cover a wide spectrum, get a rough deal and are considered easy pickings. Just look at all the special offers car manufacturers make to potential customers, no interest finance etc, etc.

Ron Stacey
Westbury-on-Trym

Conquest over disability...

We note with interest the comments made by Adam Reynolds (DN August) when he reviewed our 10th Anniversary Exhibition.

We would like to point out that the name of the Society was chosen especially to emphasize that any achievement through art is, for our members, a conquest over disability.

The mention of specific disabilities, made with the full agreement of our disabled members, may appear insensitive to some, but it is our experience that it encourages other disabled members to seek the joy and satisfaction gained from creative activity whilst at the same time helping other viewers to appreciate the therapeutic value of art.

Ursula Hulme
on behalf of the Committee
Founder, Conquest
3 Beverley Close
East Ewell, Epsom
Surrey

Golf, anyone?

Eastern Daily Press



Thanks to a grant from the Golf Foundation, the Clare School for the Physically Handicapped has

been able to acquire the services of local golf professional, Chris Potter, to give the students lessons one afternoon a week.

Although primarily intended to be an enjoyable activity, the lessons have had immense therapeutic benefits.

I have cerebral palsy, so golf for me was a challenge to say the least. For weeks and weeks I missed and missed again. I had to try and slice the top of the ball to send it up. I began treating it as my world's worst enemy. I was determined to succeed and I sweated blood and tears for it. I am now winning my battle, and I have a 50 per cent success rate.

If any other schools are interested, the address of the Golf Foundation is 57 London Road, Enfield, Middlesex EN2 6DU.

Keith Roads
Norwich

... "inspiring"

I think Adam Reynolds' reference to the recent Conquest exhibition as an Art Exhibition is basically incorrect, thereby making a fallacy of his argument. I believe it to have been an exhibition of the therapeutic process of art with the disabled.

Personally, I found this exhibition inspiring. The paintings were lively and interesting and the air was buzzing with the happy excitement of the creators. I neither felt nor saw signs of pity.

I wonder if Mr Reynolds asked the participants how they felt? I did. They all told me how happy they were to be there and how much they valued the added interest in life that Conquest had given them. They accepted their disabilities without self-pity. Why then should we apply this soul destroying emotion to them?

The blind man, Mr Sidney Hilton, drew me a picture to demonstrate his technique. This has proved a tremendous incentive to my clients, some of whom do tend to self-pity.

I agree in some measure with Mr Reynolds' arguments if, as I believe, he is seeking to prevent

compartmentalization of people into separate groups. I applaud such aims, but I do not think Conquest is guilty of this.

Conquest representatives form part of a wide group of people in Surrey working in the arts with the disabled and disadvantaged, who are presently seeking ways in which to broaden the horizons of such work and promote greater understanding within the general community.

The next meeting will be on 21 October at Brookwood Hospital. Details from Mr J Boutwood, Voluntary Services Coordinator, Merrow Road Social Service Centre, 41 Epsom Road, Guildford GU1 3LA.

Gloria Green Dip A.Th Reg. A.Th.
Epsom,
Surrey

For VIPs

I would like to introduce the Visually Impaired Persons Computer User Group (VICUG).

With the rapid takeup of PCs amongst the visually handicapped both for work and leisure, a need was felt for a users group.

If you would like more information, please contact me.

Dr Mike Townsend
VICUG
The Manor House
Fleckney, Leics LE8 0AP

(sic)

DN's diary column
by Julian Marshall

Woof treatment

Thanks to *The British Deaf News* for the following nugget: at Hartford School for the Deaf in Connecticut, USA in the 1890's, there lived a huge dog who practised his own form of reverse discrimination. He playfully greeted anyone on the premises using sign language, but harassed people who spoke aloud so savagely that there was a sign at the school entrance warning people to keep their mouths shut. As *The BDN* says, whether this was because he was unaccustomed to speech or whether he perceived voice-users as potentially harmful to his masters, was never established.

In-te-grate

Best not to sp-e-a-k t-o-o s-o-o-n, but the days of artificial speech devices sounding like something from another solar system trying to chat-up a Moulinex may soon be over. Dundee University graduate engineer Iain Murray has devised a computer programme that will put emotion into the neutral voice synthesisers. The big question is, what emotions will HAMLET (Helpful Automatic Machine for Language and Emotional Talk) find most useful? Suggestions on a postcard please.

K9UB40?

The march of technology may also be about to overtake the faithful guide dog according to an Oxford engineer. Professor Michael Grady said last month that robots are already guiding blind people in Japan. The seeing-eye "Walkmen" can carry a map in their memory of the local area and find their way round basic obstructions. But can they be stroked?

Contributions, please to DN

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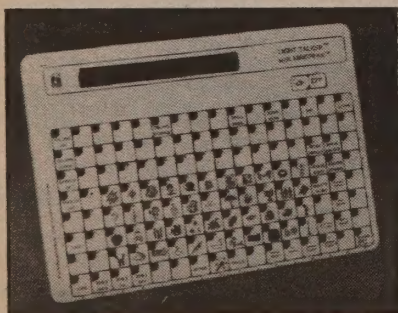
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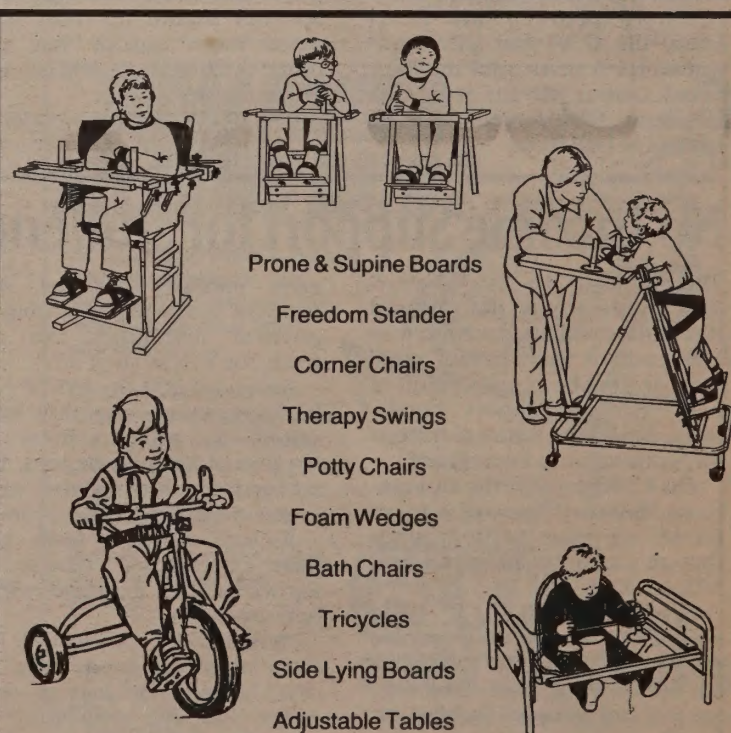
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China's new revolution

Mary Wilkinson met Deng Pufang, the energetic spokesman for disabled people in China, when he visited the UK last month.

For China's 50 million disabled people and their families, a revolution is in the making.

In July, the People's Republic of China embarked on its first Five Year Work Programme for the Disabled.

There will be legislation for social security, labour insurance, education and access. Urban "units" will be required to provide suitable jobs and there will be positive discrimination in employment.

To counter the 50 per cent illiteracy rate among disabled people, priority will be given to primary and vocational education, aiming to double the number of blind, deaf and mentally handicapped children in special and mainstream schools.

Rehabilitation will concentrate on surgery for 500,000 people with cataract and 300,000 with polio and training for 30,000 deaf children.

It is planned to step up prevention research, produce low-cost aids and equipment and open limb-fitting and servicing centres in larger towns.

National and regional sports and cultural events will be organised to discover and train talent, and the mass media will be used to promote a better understanding between disabled people and the rest of society. TV programmes already exist, but *The People's Daily* will have a special column on the disabled.

For a country with deep-seated prejudice against disabled people this is a huge change of direction, all within 10 years. Essentially it is due to the inspiration and determination of one man.

Deng Pufang, 43, the son of China's leader Deng Xiaoping, is in a wheelchair. He lost the use of his legs when, as a physics student at Peking University, he was thrown from a fourth floor



Deng Pufang meets Minister for the Disabled, Nicholas Scott.

window during Mao's Cultural Revolution.

In 1984 he became director of the China Fund for the Handicapped, a new organisation supported by the Government which has been helping with a sample survey of disabled people and their families that revealed over 50 million - nearly one-fifth of the population. It is also involved in a Sino-Japanese venture, the first purpose-built rehabilitation research and training centre in Beijing, opening this month.

In March this year, the China Disabled Persons' Federation was born, bringing together associations of specific disabilities, chaired by disabled people, with Deng Pufang as president of its executive committee and chairman of the policy-making presidium. It works closely with the Government, which pays staff salaries and funds some activities. One result has been the Five Year Plan, which talks of

"sluggish progress" in the work for disabled people and calls for "urgent solutions".

"We are trying to change attitudes to disabled people in the whole of society," says Deng Pufang. "Every step we make will result in progress. But it takes a long time. In several decades we might realise all of a sudden that it was a revolution".

Minister to Peto

Nicholas Scott has just spent 5 days in Hungary, seeing the work of the Peto Institute, talking to British parents and meeting ministers.

He was "very impressed". He will sign a health co-operation agreement with the Hungarians this month and consider steps for furthering conductive education in Britain.

Severe Disability Premium rules to be challenged

A severely disabled man plans to challenge the Government's rules for claiming Severe Disability Premium in the European Court of Human Rights.

Melvyn Champney, 44, who is blind and uses a wheelchair, has been refused the premium - worth £24.75 a week - because he lives with his 61-year old mother. The rules state that to claim it you must be claiming attendance allowance and live alone.

But Mr Champney says this is "sheer bureaucratic stupidity".

"I've told them that I get attendance allowance because I cannot manage to live alone."

Mr Champney's case is being considered by the Social Security Commissioners, after his claim was turned down by a DHSS tribunal, held at his home in April. He is still waiting for a decision.

If the Social Security Commis-

sioners turn him down he can take his case to the Court of Appeal and then on to the House of Lords, if necessary.

But Mr Champney has decided to go straight to the European Court in Strasbourg, with the help of his MEP Steven Hughes. He is now waiting to hear whether the court will consider the case.

"We've been told of quite a number of people who have had problems claiming this benefit," said Berni Graham of Disability Alliance. "The rules are so tight that not many people qualify. Even if you only share a kitchen with someone you are no longer counted as living alone. I think the whole system is very, very harsh."

DN would like to hear from other readers who have been refused Severe Disability Premium.

UK hosts People First international conference

The first international conference in the UK to be organised by people with learning difficulties was held last month at St Mary's College in Middlesex.

Eighty members of the self-advocacy organisation People First from USA, Canada, Australia and Switzerland joined 200 colleagues from all over Britain for a week of discussions, workshops and debate.

"It went very well. I met some old friends from America and we all got a lot of new ideas," said Gary Bourlet, president of People First (UK).

Gary was one of the 9 British self-advocates who attended the first international People First conference in USA in 1984 and decided to start groups here.

Topics discussed included labelling, attitudes, leadership,

leisure, participation and living and working in ordinary environments.

"The week was marvellous," said Andrea Whittaker, project officer and adviser at People First. "Everyone made friends very quickly and did not just stick to their own national group. But the level of sophistication in planning workshops and the standard of debate was much greater than in 1984."

"I just wish there had been a great big camera there to record everything and let the thousands of people out there who would not believe this sort of thing could happen know that it did."

A report and video are being prepared by People First. The next international meeting will be in Canada in 1992.



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Equity launches register of disabled actors

The days of able-bodied actors learning how to 'act disabled' could be numbered, now there is a Register of Disabled Performers, compiled by the actors' union Equity.

The register was officially launched last month by Sir Richard Attenborough at a party given by Thames Television.

The register will be sent free to producers, directors, and casting directors in theatre and television.

"We are trying to educate the casters into using more imagination," said Mark Plouvier, general secretary of Equity. "This means not only using disabled actors for disabled parts, but disabled actors playing any part."

"Given that there has to be one, it looks okay," said actress Ellen Wilkie. "It's a good thing for people who can't afford to be in *Spotlight* (the full directory), but I don't know how much difference it will make."

TUC paper

Preoccupied with arguing over single-union deals and Employment Training, the 1988 TUC Conference barely mentioned disability.

It was confined to brief mentions in the Report to Congress and in a debate on equal opportunities and race.

But the 1987 TUC motion calling on the General Council to draw up and campaign for a Bill of Rights for disabled people has resulted in a consultation paper. Comments and advice are now being sought from unions and disability groups.

Copies are available from Janis Grant, Social Insurance and Industrial Welfare Department, TUC, Congress House, Great Russell Street, London WC1B 3LS.

Designs for elderly and disabled people

"A challenging and lucrative business"

Merle Davies, OT Margaret Gilbert and Mary Wilkinson went along

The Technology for Life exhibition at the London Design Centre's Innovation Centre (until 27 October) has 25 new products, prototypes and university projects designed to improve the quality of life for elderly and disabled people.

By the turn of the century it is estimated that elderly people will make up 20 per cent of the population. The Centre sees this as a growing market, "no longer the graveyard it was once regarded, but a challenging and lucrative business".

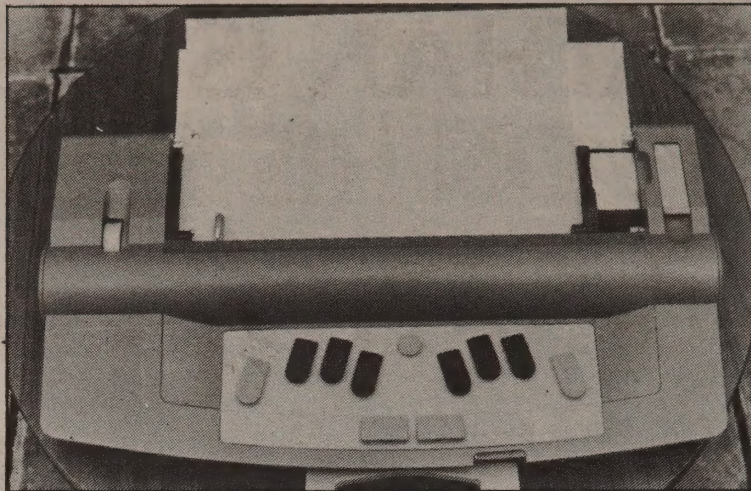
It is a pity, then, that the exhibition attracted no sponsorship and that the Centre itself has not risen to the challenge of providing up-to-date amenities for disabled consumers.

Merle Davies, in a wheelchair, could only get in by a side entrance, up a steep ramp ("I couldn't have managed that alone"), through the bookshop and down in the goods lift. There was no toilet for disabled people, and the only way to the cafeteria upstairs was to go back out again and round to the main entrance where a security officer promised help.

Staff were helpful, especially the man who kept an eye on Merle's car (parked on a yellow line because Westminster City Council does not recognise her orange badge). But Merle did not want to rely on kindness.

There were some exciting high tech breakthroughs at the show, like the replacement elbow joint for people with arthritis designed by Dr Andrew Amis of Imperial College, which is going into production, and the Trophic Code Unit from Neurotech Ltd of London, which electrically stimulates muscle wasted by arthritis; the video showed a lady knitting for the first time in 18 years.

CHAT, a revolutionary speech communication system, is being developed at the Microcompu-



Mountbatten Braille with paper inserted.

ter Centre at the University of Dundee. It allows severely disabled non-speakers to communicate more swiftly and to express their own mood and style.

We saw the first portable electronic braille machine, the Mountbatten Braille, developed at the Royal National College for the Blind, Hereford. It can store information for print-out later, has a correction facility - in fact all the facilities of a word processor.

"No manufacturer in this country wanted to know about it", said development engineer Brian Moorey. Now an Australian company, Quantum Technology, is putting it into production, helped by a grant from the Australian government. Negotiations are going on with the RNIB for a special price; at the moment it is about £500, delivered in 8-9 months.

The Nufax 8200 Teletext Adaptor (£229.95) allows deaf people to watch and record programmes with teletext subtitles using a conventional tv set and video recorder. It is hoped that tv companies will now subtitle more programmes.

Two developments from the Bath Institute of Medical Engineering looked good and inexpensive. The first folding elbow crutches also have a specially

shaped hand-grip to distribute weight more efficiently - and comfortably. A trial batch will cost about £14 a pair.

Manufacturers are also interested in the bright red, mobile hoist for less than £200, which uses a simple lever to raise, lower or transfer someone from chair to toilet. (It won't pick up from the floor.)

The Buzzbox is a portable paging system for deaf children and their parents, composed of a transmitter and a child's bracelet which vibrates when the parent "calls". Manufactured by Mentmore Industries, about £100.

Walter Rose of REMAP's Croydon panel has designed Direction Motion Castors which can move freely in any direction - good for confined spaces. A manufacturer is sought.

Orders for the Mountbatten Braille to PDD Ltd, 286 Munster Road, London SW6 6AP.

Nufax Ltd, 495 Bath Road, Bristol, Bristol BS4 3JU.

Elbow crutches: Cooper & Sons Ltd, Wormley, Godalming, Surrey GU8 5SY.

Mentmore Industries, 24 Mentmore Terrace, London E8 3PN.

Walter Rose, 105 Markfield, Croydon CR0 9HP.

The Design Centre, 26 Haymarket, London SW1.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Government pays out to carers

The Carers' National Association has received its first Government grant since being established in May this year.

The Association, formed from the amalgamation of the National Council for Carers and their Elderly Dependents and the Association of Carers, was awarded £77,000.

Libraries merge

The British Library of Tape Recordings for Hospital Patients has merged with the National Listening Library to form the Talking Books Library.

The merger was celebrated with final AGMs for both charities in the presence of HRH The Duchess of Gloucester, who is patron of the new library.

BLOT's chairman, Andrew Althus, said the merger would save administration costs and create new opportunities to improve the service.

Edinburgh centre

Ortho-med, the manufacturer of equipment for disabled people, has opened a new Health Care Centre in Gilmore Place, Edinburgh.

The centre provides treatment and advisory services in a state-of-the-art clinic with the chance to try a wide range of prescribed equipment on the premises. A team of physiotherapists and a chiropodist are also on hand.

RNID guides

The RNID has launched a new series of consumer guides to appliances for hearing impaired people. The first looks at 16 leading makes of microphone-type TV listening aids. It costs £4.95 and is available from the Information Department, RNID, 105 Gower Street, London WC1E 6AH. Future reports will cover plug-in TV listening aids, telephone couplers and alarm clocks.

Benefits guides

The Child Poverty Action Group has published 2 up-dated guides to social security benefits to explain the new regulations. *The National Welfare Benefits Handbook* (£5.50 incl p&p, £2.50 to claimants) answers questions on means-tested benefits such as income support and housing benefit. *Rights Guide to Non-Means-Tested Social Security Benefits* (£4.50 incl p&p, £2 for claimants) provides coverage of benefits for unemployment, sickness, maternity, disablement and caring for disabled people. Both books are available from CPAG Ltd, 1-5 Bath Street, London EC1V 9PY.

Birmingham services

West Birmingham Health Authority has published a free handbook for disabled people living in the area.

It contains information on council and health authority services, getting about, voluntary bodies and other tips and information.

Handbook for People with a Physical Disability and their Carers is available outside the West Birmingham area for £1.50 (incl p&p) from Steve Arnold, The Carnegie Centre, Hunters Road, Hockley, Birmingham B19 1DR.

A brighter outlook for incontinence sufferers

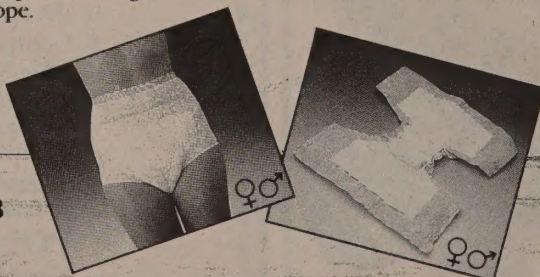
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MAIL ORDER



JONATHAN IS MISSING OUT ON HIS SAVINGS.



IS IT HAPPENING TO YOU?

Jonathan was badly injured in a car accident when he was 19. It left him severely disabled. He's now confined to a wheelchair, and receives a disablement allowance of £24.75 a week and a mobility allowance of £23.05 a week. But he's missing out on his savings.

Following his accident, he was given £10,000 compensation and immediately put it into his bank account. But the local bank – like the local building society – has to take tax off his interest and he can't claim it back. The interest he earns is well below his Personal Allowance of £2,605 for this tax year and none of his benefits are taxable. So he's paying tax on his interest when he doesn't need to.

What Jonathan could do now is transfer his savings into National Savings Income Bonds, where he'd get his full interest paid as a regular monthly income *without* having tax taken off before he gets it.

Jonathan is just one of the many non-taxpayers who could benefit from the fact that with the National Savings Investment Account, Deposit Bonds or Income Bonds, you get *all* the interest, with nothing taken off for tax. (You only pay tax if you are a taxpayer.)

So if you think you're paying tax when you don't



have to, or know a friend or relative who might be, you should read our easy-to-understand booklet "A Guide to Savings for Non-Taxpayers".

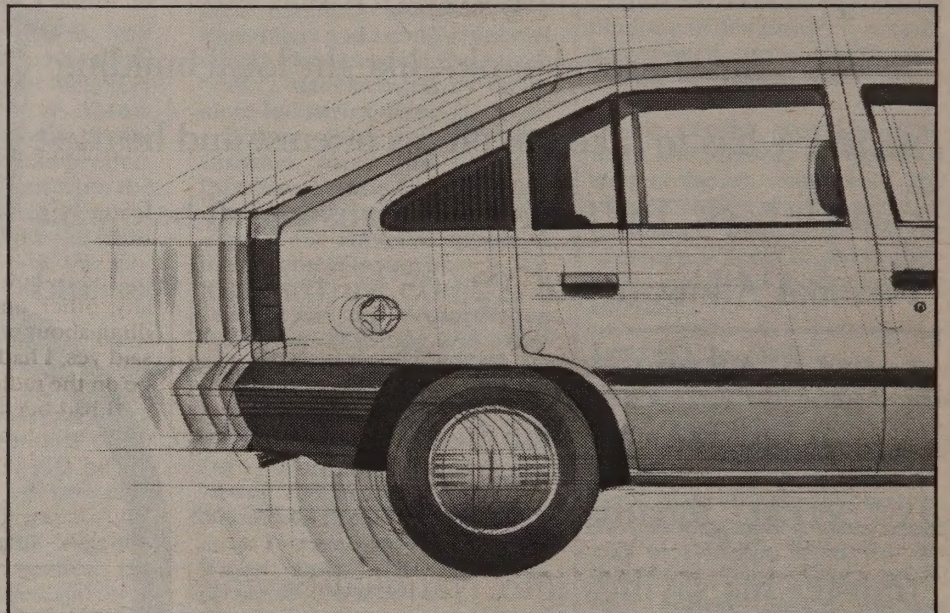
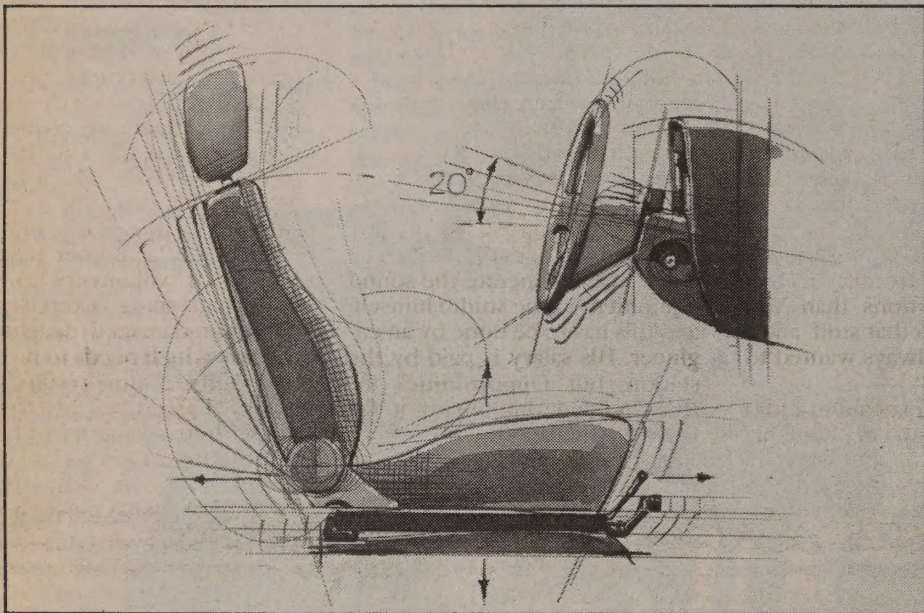
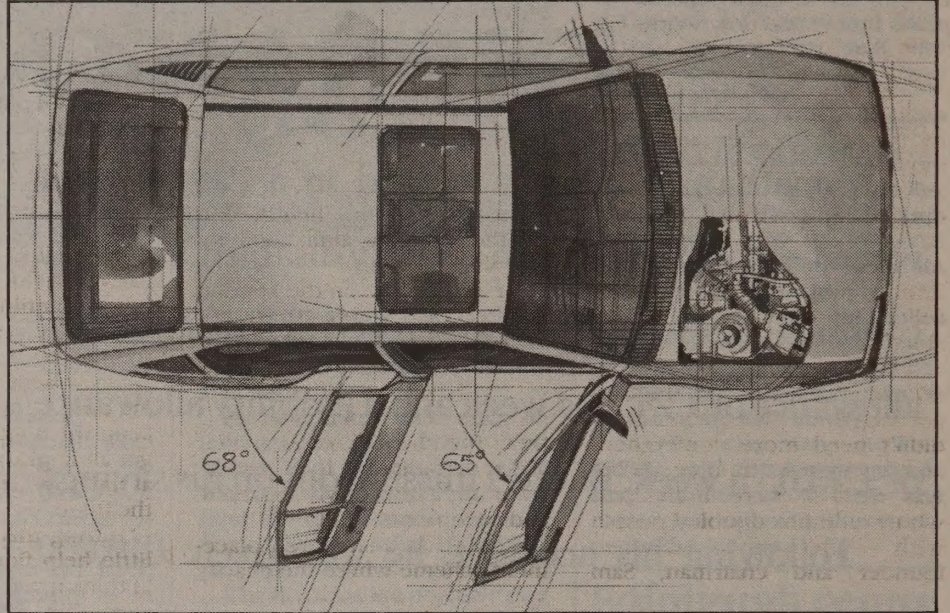
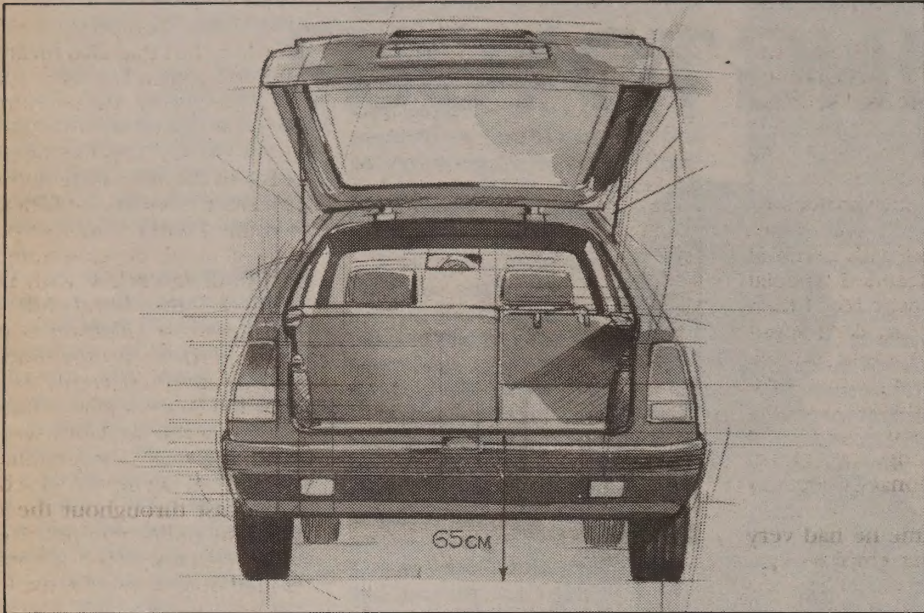
For your free copy, write to National Savings, Dept. 145, FREEPOST 4335, Bristol BS1 3YX or phone free on 0800 100 100 (24 hours).



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A car with a height adjustable driver's seat, height adjustable front seat belts, power steering and auto transmission as standard or options on most models.

(So much for the boring bit. Now for some fun.)

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A car with outstanding aerodynamics and handling. A car whose top of the range model will do 0-60 in an outrageous 7.3 seconds.

A car that remembers you have a disability. But that you don't have water in your veins.

To find out more ring Vauxhall Helpline on 0582 696 332, 9am-5.30pm Monday to Friday.

Please send me more information about Vauxhall Motability schemes. (Please tick box)

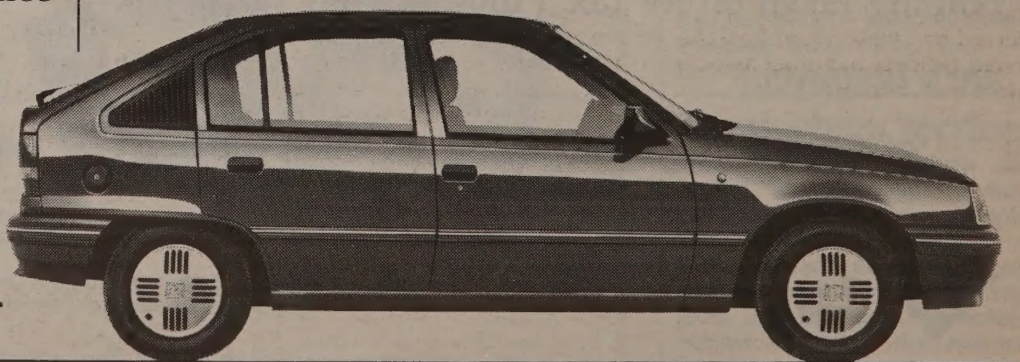
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Seize your opportunity

★ Don was unemployed for four years when heart trouble prevented him carrying on in the building trade. He now lectures at Hall Green College of Technology.

★ Andrew, who is partially sighted, got his national diploma in piano tuning and now works for Sulis Pianos of Bath.

★ Malcolm, who has learning difficulties, first got a community programme job and then moved on to become a sales assistant when a new Safeway opened in the Wirral.

All these people were helped into employment by a charity called Opportunities for the Disabled.

It was formed in 1980 when 10 major companies in the City got together. "We decided we didn't need more conferences and awareness training. What was needed were individuals who would link disabled people with employers," explained founder and chairman, Sam

Careers

Karen Wingate reports

help the disabled person define their strengths and weaknesses and decide what they want to do and what they can realistically achieve. They give practical advice about applications and interviews and liaise with employers.

"The first important thing to establish is that they have the commitment to get work and that they have come to terms with their disability," says Peter Woods, head of the London regional office. "If they haven't come to terms with their disability they can be almost unemployable."

Of 200 people on the London register, only about 40 are not yet ready for open employment. Opportunities for the Disabled steers these people to training programmes which will give them the chance to assess their strengths, adjust to their disability if they are newly disabled, and acquire new skills.

It also has a sheltered placement scheme where the charity

Geoff Newton/British Aerospace



Lisa Carr, 19, who has cerebral palsy, got her first job as a VDU operator in the Criminal Records Office of the Greater Manchester Police in April, with the help of Opportunities for the Disabled. Above, Lisa with Sergeant John Brinnand, Community Relations.

Gallop.

In addition to the headquarters, based in the Bank of England, there are 10 regional offices which act like employment centres. Job seekers are interviewed, assessed, offered advice about training and suitable jobs and put forward to local employers, who let them know of vacancies.

In 1987 the charity placed 310 disabled people, and by the end of June this year it had already found jobs for 173.

Most come following personal recommendations from other disabled people, or they are referred by Disablement Resettlement Officers and other associations and charities.

"As long as they are capable of open or sheltered employment we will help them," promised Sam Gallop.

Opportunities for the Disabled is staffed by 24 people who have been seconded from senior management in industry. Their salaries are paid by their usual employer, but for two years they work solely for the charity.

"They need to be able to liaise with both the disabled job-seekers and senior company people," says the director general, Patrick Coleman. "The object is not to be experts in disability, but to be able to bridge this gap."

The job of the seconded is to

will reimburse the employer for the work a disabled employee cannot manage.

An important part of the charity's work is to convince more companies to employ disabled people. Seconded spend part of their time contacting companies and holding seminars.

"We know what objections employers will raise," says Sam Gallop. "They have about 13 excuses that always get brought out, such as the myth that people with disabilities will not fit into their pension scheme."

The charity runs courses on presentation - how to sell yourself on application forms and at interviews - which include mock interviews. It also organises sponsored awards and is involved in other projects such as training young people in restoring cathedrals. Its new video *Second Sight* is about a young woman who became blind and now teaches braille to others. Research into facial disfigurement is another concern and it has published several books and made a video on coping with burn scars.

Opportunities for the Disabled headquarters can put you in touch with your nearest regional office. Write to 1 Bank Buildings, Princes Street, London EC2R 8EU or tel: 01-726 4963.

"I had been crazy about radio for years"

David Preston is one of Opportunities for the Disabled's success stories. Plucked from a centre where he spent his days reading and modelling in plaster of Paris, he now has his dream job. As a radio journalist with the commercial radio station Leicester Sound he works two days a week producing his own weekly programme on disability topics - The Preston Report.

This job, which is under the Opportunities for the Disabled sheltered placement scheme, has spawned much freelance work as a radio journalist, and David now finds that all his days are filled with one project or another.

Born blind and with cerebral palsy, David attended special schools until he was 16. "I then had a nine-year 'break'. I spent some time at an adult training centre where we were just wasting time - the attitude was 'just keep them amused' - but I did get an English Language O-level at the Royal National College for the Blind."

During this time he had very little help finding employment. "I think it was because I had two disabilities. If I had just been blind the RNIB probably would have been able to help me more but they are not used to dealing with people with cp as well."

"One day in 1984, when I was 30, I was at a club where people with disabilities pass on skills to each other. I was making chess pieces when a man called Terry Gardiner came in - he had just been seconded to Opportunities for the Disabled. He asked if I had any other ambitions than 'fiddling about with that stuff' and I said yes, I had always wanted to be on the radio."

"I had been crazy about radio for years. I took part in phone-ins whenever I could, but I knew if I approached a station for a job they would look at me and say 'but you can't do this and you

can't do that.'"

Terry Gardiner told him there were ways round these problems, such as the sheltered placement scheme.

"At the time the commercial radio franchise was up for grabs and two companies were competing for it. I waited to hear which one won the franchise and then wrote to them straight away asking for an interview," said David Preston. Terry Gar-

Neville Chadwick Photography



David Preston on the air.

diner wrote explaining how the sheltered scheme worked.

The newly-born Leicester Sound agreed to take David on, working 2 days a week on a disability programme. He started in November 1984.

David spends one day researching and preparing the programme, another recording it. He is paid the going rate for the job, but because of his disabilities he is not able to operate the sound equipment in the studio himself, and this has to be done by an engineer. His salary is paid by the station, but Opportunities for the Disabled reimburses it for the work he cannot do.

The Preston Report is on air every Monday at 3.45pm. It provides an information service for local people with disabilities,

dealing with all kinds of topical issues, social security information, and local disability news.

One of the highlights in the four years since the programme started was an interview with the Prime Minister, Margaret Thatcher, in 1985, when she opened the new regional office of Opportunities for the Disabled in Leicester.

"I have complete editorial freedom, but that also means it's a big responsibility," said David. "The people at the station expect me to get on with the job, but if I ask for help I will get it."

David also does other work for Leicester Sound. "Wherever possible I will try and get pieces into general programming." A half hour interview with David Blunkett, the blind MP, was broadcast on Leicester Sound's *Conversations* programme and also went out on Trent, Nottingham and Derby radio stations.

Among the freelance work he has done was a programme on the Special Olympics, which was broadcast throughout the independent radio network. He has also just completed a commissioned programme for the RNIB, on how the special schools he attended have changed.

David uses a standard Morantz Superscope professional tape recorder for interviews, provided by the Manpower Services Commission. Initially his request for it was refused, but after he contacted the RNIB, which helped him put his case, the Commission agreed to give it to him.

"Recently a mother rang me asking for volunteers to help with 'patterning' exercises for her brain-damaged daughter, a therapy which needs to be done constantly to show results," said David. "I asked her into the studio with her daughter to broadcast the appeal and we had half-a-dozen offers of help straight away. That's what makes it all so worthwhile."

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BATHROOMS

Aidserve Ltd, Bradley Hall Trading Estate, Standish, Wigan WN6 0XQ. Tel: (0257) 425538. Range of toilet aids, walking frames, stools and grab rails, including new self-propelled shower chair. *Stands 303C & 311*

Amilake Ltd, Haslemere Industrial Estate, 20 Ravensbury Terrace, Wandsworth, London SW18 4SB. Tel: 01-947 7191. *Stands 186-192 & 207-213*

Autumn Mobility, PO Box 18, Oldham, Lancs OL8 1XS. Tel: 061-652 5492. *Stand 304*

Balsan - 3 (Southern), 11 Hazeldene Court, Valley Road, Kenley, Surrey CR2 5DJ. Tel: 01-645 0759. *Stand 269*

Barking Grohe, 1 River Road, Barking, Essex IG11 0HD. Tel: 01-594 7292. Europe's largest makers of taps, mixers and showers will be showing their Petita, Hospita, Neotherm and Grohmix ranges. *Stand 308*

Caradon Mira Ltd, Cromwell Road, Cheltenham, Glos. Tel: (0242) 221221. New Supreme range of electric showers are all switch operated by light-touch levers. *Stand 218*

Cefndy Enterprises, Cefndy Road, Rhyl, Clwyd, Wales LL18 2HG. Tel: (0745) 343877. *Stand 325*

Chiltern Medical Equipment Ltd, Chiltern House, Wedgewood Road, Bicester, Oxon OX6 7UL. Tel: (0869) 246470. *Stands 186-192 & 207-213*

Clos-O-Mat, 2 Brooklands, Sale, Cheshire M33 3SS. Tel: 061-973 6262. 25-year-old company, makers of Samoa flush-wash-dry toilet and Luxaire after-bath body dryer. *Stands 186-192 & 207-213*

Hampshire Medical Ltd, Appollo House, 34 Church Road, Romsey, Hants SO5 8EY. Tel: (0794) 523455. *Stands 140 & 141*

Health & Comfort Ltd, PO Box 15, Westbury, Wilts BA13 4LS. Tel: (0373) 822394. *Stands 419-422*

Medic Bath Ltd, Ashfield Works, Hulme Hall Lane, Manchester M10 8AZ. Tel: 061-205 7495. Existing WC suites can be adapted to give Medicloo wash/dry facility. *Stands 322 & 323*

Mountway Ltd, Dan-y-Bont Mill, Gilwern, Abergavenny, Gwent NP7 0DD. Tel: (0873) 831678. *Stand 197*

Nicholls & Clarke, Niclar House, 3/10 Shoreditch High Street, London E1 6PE. Tel: 01-247 5432. New Phlexicare bathroom and kitchens designed to be attractive and convenient to all while serving disability needs. *Stands 198-201*

Parker Bath Developments Ltd, Queensway, Stem Lane Industrial Estate, New Milton, Hants BH25 5NN. Tel: (0425) 611273. Name of their newly-launched bath to be announced at Naidex. *Stands 136-138 & 150-151*

Showerloo, 7 Woodhead Road, Glossop, Derbys SK13 9RH. Tel: (04574) 64369. *Stand 31*

Southern Sanitary Specialists, Cerdic House, West Portway, Andover, Hants SP10 3LF. Tel: (0264) 241311. *Stands 186-192 & 207-213*

J W Swain Plastics Ltd, Byron Street, Buxton, Derbyshire SK17 6LY. Tel: (0298) 2365. New Invadex self-contained toilet unit can be adapted for many uses, from baby-changing to shower facility. *Stands 270-272*

Triton PLC, Triton House, Weddington Terrace, Weddington Industrial Estate, Nuneaton CV10 0AG. Tel: (0203) 372222. *Stand 246*

BEDS

Centromed, Brookfield Industrial Estate, Leacon Road, Ashford, Kent TN23 2TN. Tel: (0233) 28018. Mattress Variator takes the strain out of sitting oneself or someone else up in bed. *Stand 337*

GP Care Systems, 14 Golden Square, London W1R 3AG. Tel: 01-434 2066. *Stand 123*

Huntleigh Medical Ltd, 310-312 Dallow Road, Luton, Beds LU1 1UU. Tel: (0582) 413104. Wide range of pressure sore prevention mattresses, including Superdown, Dyson Flotation and unique Double Bubble. *Stand 319*

Kings of Bideford, Orchard Hill, Bideford, N Devon EX39 2RA. Tel: (02372) 73660. *Stand 312*

Mediscus Products Ltd, 10 Westminster Road, Wareham, Dorset

For your convenience, *Disability Now* has listed all the exhibitors at Naidex '88 under subject categories. Take our guide with you when you go!

BH20 4SP. Tel: (09295) 6311. *Stand 333A*

Talley Medical Equipment Ltd, 47 Theobald Street, Borehamwood, Herts WD6 4RT. Tel: 01-953 7171. *Stand 105*

Theraposture Ltd, 4 The Downlands, Warminster, Wilts BA12 0BD. Tel: (0985) 213440. *Stands 360 & 361*

COMFORT/CLOTHES

Ainsworth Down Quilt Co Ltd, Hope Mill, Ainsworth Lane, Bolton, Lancs BL2 2PJ. Tel: (0204) 21404. *Stand 307M*

Medi-Goods (Ireland) Ltd, D2 Chapelizod Industrial Estate, Dublin 20, Ireland. Tel: (0001) 261071. *Stand 63*

panies' communications equipment. *Stand 307E*

Elfin Systems, Llantonney Trading Estate, Llantonney Road, Glos GL1 1SB. Tel: (0452) 411533. *Stand 296*

Hutton Wild Communications Ltd, 63 Charterhouse Street, London EC1M 6HJ. Tel: 01-490 1441. *Stand 297*

Impact Communications Ltd, The First House, Sutton Street, Birmingham B1 1PE. Tel: 021-622 3861. *Stands 67 & 68*

Liberator Ltd, Whitegates, Swinstead, Lincolnshire NG33 4PA. Tel: (04768) 4391. Introtalker, Touch Talker and Light Talker portable talking machines and ancillary equipment. *Stand 273*

Libra (RW) Ltd, Unit 16, Erith Busi-

water bottles and the Jar and Bottle Top Remover, will be exhibited. *Stands 84 & 85*

Goldene Designs Ltd, 7c Moss Lane, Whitefield, Manchester M25 7QE. Tel: 061-796 9367. Showing the Helping Hand Trolley, a walking frame, carrying trolley and eat-off table in one. *Stand 307H*

The Helping Hand Co (Ledbury) Ltd, Unit L9, Bromyard Road Trading Estate, Ledbury, Herefordshire HR8 1NS. Tel: (0531) 5678. *Stand 302*

Homecraft Supplies Ltd, 27 Trinity Road, London SW17 7SP. Tel: 01-672 7070. *Stands 348-350 & 365*

Keep Able Ltd, Fleming Close, Park Farm, Wellingborough, Northants NN8 3WF. Tel: (0933) 679426. This

naidex '88

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Medipost Ltd, Unit 1, St John's Estate, Elder Road, Lees, Oldham OL4 3DZ. Tel: 061-678 0233. Products from their Easy Living catalogue include outdoor all-weather clothing and accessories, Multigrip cutlery and correct-posture pillow. *Stand 353*

Mycoal Warm Packs Ltd, 8A Commercial Road, Southampton SO1 0GE. Tel: (0703) 211068. *Stand 318*

Sidhil, Boothtown, Halifax, W Yorks HX3 6NT. Tel: (0422) 63447. Showing selection of home furnishings, and new products such as De-Berkel staff uniforms - in their centenary year. *Stands 316 & 317*

Sumed International (UK) Ltd, PO Box 70, Armscote, Stratford-upon-Avon, CV37 8JS. Tel: (0608) 82249. *Stands 193-194*

COMMUNICATIONS/COMPUTERS

FWO Bauch Ltd, 49 Theobald Street, Borehamwood, Herts WD6 4RZ. Tel: 01-953 0091. *Stand 330*

British Computer Society, West Hanningfield Road, Great Baddow, Chelmsford, Essex. Tel: (0245) 73331. Running IT Support for the Disabled project to alert disabled people and employers to potential of high tech. *Stand 351*

British Telecom, 81 Newgate Street, London EC1A 7AJ. Tel: 01-356 6022. *Stands 1-4*

Calderglan Computers Ltd, 279 Keighley Road, Colne, Lancs. Tel: (0282) 866481. *Stand 9*

Canon UK Ltd, Manor Road, Wallington, Surrey SM6 0BW. Tel: 01-773 3173. *Stand 355*

Toby Churchill Ltd, 20 Pantom Street, Cambridge CB2 1HP. Tel: (0223) 316117. *Stand 11*

Easialds Ltd, 48 Mill Green Road, Mitcham, Surrey CR4 4HY. Tel: 01-648 4186. Distribute several com-

ness Centre, High Street, Erith, Kent DA8 1RT. Tel: (0322) 332725. *Stand 315C*

Modern Vitalcall Ltd, Fringe Meadow Road, North Moons Moat, Redditch, Worcs B98 9NS. Tel: (0527) 67607. *Stand 398*

Possum Controls Ltd, Middlegreen Trading Estate, Middlegreen Road, Slough, Berks. Tel: (0753) 79234. *Stand 336*

Quest Technologies, 766 Palomar Ave, Sunnyvale California 94086 USA. Tel: 0101 408 739 3550. *Stand 331E*

Sycotek Electronics, Unit 16, Shakespeare Business Centre, Hatherway Close, Eastleigh, Hants SO5 4SR. Tel: (0703) 629262. Introducing their new Nurse Call System and Cable Free Call Systems with range of 1.5 km. *Stand 146*

Teleholders UK Ltd, 119 Seymours, Harlow, Essex CM19 5NH. Tel: (0279) 635921. *Stand 171*

HOLIDAYS

Alison Homes, Temple Road, Buxton, Derbyshire SK17 9BAJ. Tel: (0298) 2473. *Stand 307*

HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT

British Gas Corporation, 326 High Holborn, London WC1V 7PT. Tel: 01-242 0789. Home Service Advisers will give advice on adaptors for gas appliances, equipment for people with different disabilities and free services available. *Stands 219-220 & 235-236*

Citrox Ltd, 145-418 Northfield Road, Netherton, Dudley, W Midlands. Tel: (0384) 241621. *Stand 144*

Dycem Ltd, Ashley Hill Trading Estate, Bristol BS2 9XS. Tel: (0272) 559921. Showing the range of non-slip mats, trays, self-adhesive discs and the new reels of printed non-slip material, easy to cut to any size. *Stand 367*

Electricity Council, 30 Millbank, London SW1P 4BD. Tel: 01-834 2333. *Stands 165-167 & 176-178*

Gordon Ellis & Co Ltd, Trent Lane, Castle Donnington DE7 2PW. Tel: (0332) 810504. *Stand 352*

William Freeman & Co Ltd, Suba Seal Works, Staincross, Barnsley S75 6DH. Tel: (0226) 284081. Full range of Suba Care products, including bedpans, toilet seat cushions, hot-

Please note...

The categories in this listing are meant only as a general guide to help people find what they want. Many manufacturers produce equipment other than that of their category. Addresses and stand numbers are as supplied by Naidex Conventions Limited.

LEISURE

Clarke & Smith, Melbourne House, Melbourne Road, Wallington, Surrey SM6 8SD. Tel: 01-669 4411. Easisplay cassette player, single action operation for books, talking newspapers etc. *Stand 309*

Knittingpal, 104 Biddulph Mansion, Elgin Avenue, London W9 1HU. Tel: 01-286 1532. Revolutionary simple-to-use system allowing disabled people to enjoy creative knitting. *Stand 307J*

LIFTS

Alpha Lifts, Unit 31, Pensnett Trading Estate, Kingswinford, W Midlands. Tel: (0384) 294715. *Stand 122B*

Anglian Mobility Enterprises Ltd, 9 North View, Barney, Fakenham, Norfolk NR21 0NE. Tel: (0328) 778878. *Stand 237*

Asgo Ltd, 22B Hawthorn Road, Lottbridge, Eastbourne, E Sussex BN23. Tel: (0323) 38228. *Stands 32 & 33*

Bison-Bede Ltd, Units 11A & B, Leadgate Industrial Estate, Consett, Co Durham DH8 7RN. Tel: (0207) 590149. *Stands 184 & 185*

Brooks Stairlifts Ltd, Westminster Industrial Estate, Station Road, North Hykeham, Lincoln LN6 3QY. Tel: (0522) 500228. *Stands 46-47 & 52-53*

Furse & Co Ltd, Traffic Street, Nottingham NG2 1NF. Tel: (0602) 868213. *Stands 115 & 116*

Gimson/Tendercare, 62 Boston Road, Beaumont Leys, Leics LE4 1AZ. Tel: (0533) 366779. *Stands 130-133 & 154-157*

Mangar Aids Ltd, Presteigne Industrial Estate, Presteigne, Powys. Tel: (0544) 267674. Low air pressure lifting devices for baths and chairs, plus accessories and mystery new product. *Stand 248 & 263*

Mediquip Healthcare Ltd, 33 Dulverton Road, Birmingham B6 7EQ. Tel: 021-326 7404. Showing products from all the companies in the Mediquip group: eg Falcon stairlifts, Cheney stair and platform lifts. *Stand 58-62, 37-41*

Project & Design (Redcar) Ltd, Longbeck Trading Estate, Marske by the Sea, Cleveland TS11 6HR. Tel: (0642) 484802. *Stands 37-41, 58-62*

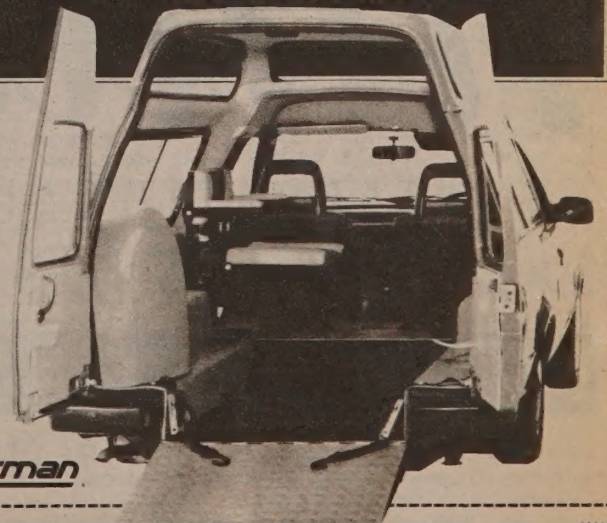
Stairlift Engineering Ltd, Beechwood 3B, Chineham Business Park, Basingstoke, Hants RG24. Tel: (0256) 843163. *Stands 37-41, 58-62*

Stannah Lifts Ltd, Watt Close, East Portway, Andover, Hants. Tel: (0264) 64311. Award-winning Silver and Golden Rails with new features, plus larger Access and Piccolo lifts. *Stands 95-97 & 102-104*

Wessex Medical Equipment Co Ltd, Budds Lane, Romsey, Hants SO5 0AH. Tel: (0794) 522022. *Stands 34-35, 90-92 & 107-109*

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MOTURING

Atlas Conversions, 75 Alverstoke Road, Portsmouth PO4 8TG. Tel: (0705) 756265. *Stand 299*
Austin Rover, Sales Marketing Division, Canley Road, Canley, Coventry CV5 6UX. Tel: (0203) 70111. *Stands 134-135 & 152-153*
Alfred Bekker, The Green, Langtoft, Nr Driffield, N Humberside YO25 0TF. Tel: (0377) 87276. *Stands 77, 78 & 79*
Brotherwood Conversions, Station Garage, Yetminster, Sherborne, Dorset. Tel: (0935) 872603. *Stands 405-408*
City Vehicle Engineering Ltd, Hackworth Industrial Park, Shildon, Co Durham DL4 1HF. Tel: (0388) 775115. Displaying their new Omni welfare vehicle. *Stands 283-286*
Gowrings Mobility International, The Grange, 18-21 Church Gate, Thatcham, Berks RG13 4PH. Tel: (0635) 64464. *Stands 374-377*

Kempf, 11 Rue Duranton, Paris 75015 France. Tel: 0033 1 45542255. *Stand 64-65*
Peugeot Talbot, International House, Po Box 712, Bicken Hill Lane, Birmingham B37 7HZ. Tel: 021-779 6565. *Stands 98-101*
Special Vehicle Designs, Ravenstone Road Industrial Estate, Coalville, Leics. Tel: (0530) 810440. Showing an upgraded and improved Nippi - the 3-wheeled moped now has reverse gear, emergency flasher lights and a modernised canopy. *Stand 362 & 363*
Stratford Specialist Vehicles, Unit A, Altbarn Industrial Estate, Revenge Road, Lordswood, Chatham, Kent. Tel: (0634) 684465. *Stands 339-341*
Vauxhall-Opel, PO Box 159, Dunstable, Beds LU5 5TE. Tel: (0582) 696332. Try the specially adapted automatic Astra. 31 models of Novas, Astras, Belmonts and Cavaliers are available through the Mota-

bility contract hire plan. *Stands 43-44 & 55-56*
MAN Volkswagen, Frankland Road, Blagrove Industrial Estate, Swindon SN5 8YU. Tel: (0793) 40231. *Stands 118-121*

ORGANISATIONS/SERVICES

BSAD, 45 Riverside, Hendon, London NW4 3TU. Tel: 01-202 4684. *Stand 334*
DHSS, Alexander Fleming House, Elephant & Castle, London SE1. Tel: 01-407 5522. *Stands 278-279, 280-282, 287-289, 290 & 291*
The Family Fund, PO Box 50, York YO1 1UY. Tel: (0904) 21115. Government fund to help families with very disabled children. Complements existing services for laundry, holidays, outings, driving etc. *Stand 346*
Foundation for the Communication for the Disabled, 25 High

Street, Woking, Surrey GU21 1BW. Tel: (04862) 27848. Adapt standard equipment for use by disabled people. Specialists in alternatives to handwriting, communication aids and computers for visually impaired. *Stand 315F*

John Grooms Association for the Disabled, 10 Gloucester Drive, Finsbury Park, London N4 2LP. Tel: 01-802 7272. Holiday specialists, have 2 award-winning hotels, caravans, bungalows and a London holiday flat. All adapted, 24-hr care. *Stand 310*

Hill Samuel Investment Services Ltd, NLA Tower, 12-16 Addiscombe Road, Croydon CR9 6BP. Tel: 01-686 6111. *Stand 1B*

Ileostomy Association of GB & N Ireland, 3 The Grove, Mill Ride, Ascot, Berks SL5 8LH. Tel: (0753) 859221 ext 282. Sharing stand with colostomy and urostomy groups, all providing information packs. *Stand 369*

naidex

Independent Living Centre, 9 Caldecote Gardens, Bushey Heath, Herts WD2 3RA. Tel: 01-950 6635. *Stand 244*

J & S Services for the Disabled, Unit N11, Riverside Industrial Estate, Littlehampton, Sussex BN17 5DF. Tel: (0903) 723141. *Stand 313*
The London Boroughs Disability Resource Team, Room 95, County Hall, London SE1 7PB. Tel: 01-633 8554. *Stand 14*

Motability, Gate House, Westgate, Harlow, Essex CM20 1HR. Tel: (0279) 635666. *Stand 6*

M S Society, 25 Effie Road, Fulham, London SW6 1EE. Tel: 01-736 6267. *Stand 382*

Muscular Dystrophy Group, Natrass House, 35 Macaulay Road, London SW4 0QP. Tel: 01-720 8055. *Stand 14*

National Centre for Cued Speech for the Deaf, 29/30 Watling Street, Canterbury CT1 2UD. Tel: (0227) 450757. Offer instruction material and courses in cued speech, adapted into 40 languages and dialects. *Stand 298A*

National Westminster Bank PLC, Visually Handicapped Services, 1 Prescott Street, London E1 8RN. Tel: 01-480 2345. Displaying their range of facilities for visually disabled customers. *Stand 235*

Netherlands British Chamber of Commerce, 181 Beziudenhoutseweg, 2594 AH The Hague, The Netherlands. Tel: 01031 70478881. *Stand 149*

Ofel, Atlantic House, Holborn Viaduct, London EC1N 2HQ. Tel: 01-822 1600. *Stand 268*

Penton & Smart, 8 Spicer Street, St Albans, Herts AL2 4PQ. Tel: (0727) 40911. Architects. *Stands 25 & 26*

RADAR, 25 Mortimer Street, London W1N 8AB. Tel: 01-637 5400. Providing information and publications on education, access, jobs, leisure, transport and equipment, plus 3 one-day conferences. *Stands 401A & B*

RNIB, 224 Great Portland Street, London W1N 6AA. Tel: 01-388 1266. Largest organisation working for Britain's 300,000 people with severe visual disablement. *Stand 315E*

Save The Children/Playtrac, c/o Harperbury Hospital, Harper Lane, Shenley, Nr Radlett, Herts WD7 9HQ. Tel: (09276) 4861. *Stand 24*

Spinal Injuries Association, 76 St James Lane, London N10 3DF. Tel: 01-444 2121. *Stand 15*

Tadworth Court Trust, Tadworth Court Children's Hospital, Tadworth, Surrey KT20 5RU. Tel: (07373) 57171. Rehabilitation service for children with head injuries. *Stand 338*

Talking Books for the Handicapped, 12 Lant Street, London SE1 1QH. Tel: 01-407 9417. Nearly 3,000 titles on tapes for use with ALC (600 titles) and RNIB's Clarke & Smith (2,160) tape machines. *Stand 23*

VOCAL, 336 Brixton Road, London SW9 7AA. Tel: 01-274 4029. Aims to ensure all people with speech or language disorder receive help. *Stand 10*

PERSONAL CARE

Bard Ltd, Pennywell Industrial Estate, Sunderland SR4 9EL. Tel: 091-534 3131. *Stands 70 & 71*

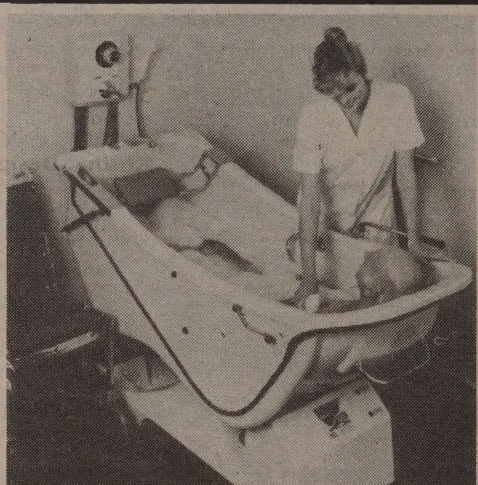
Biss Lancaster (Boots), 180 Wardour Street, London NW1 3AA. Tel: 01-437 7733. *Stands 86-89*

Caducee Healthcare, Rye Park Industrial Estate, Rye Road, Hoddeston, Herts. Tel: (0992) 445522.

How to get there

by ROAD - Exit 25 on the M25. Parking for disabled drivers near the Palace. Shuttle service from the car parks.
 by BUS - Numerous routes serve the Palace. Shuttle service to and from the bus station.
 by TRAIN - Half-hourly direct service from Kings Cross to Alexandra Palace BR Station, all day and evening. Many stairs at the BR station, but shuttle service to the Palace.

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listings

Wide range of incontinence aids to suit varied patient needs, plus specialist back up. *Stand 30*
Molnlycke, Southfield Road, Dunstable, Beds LU6 3EJ. Tel: (0582) 600211. *Stand 93*

PUBLICATIONS/PROGRAMMES

Athletic Challenge, 4 Croft House Lane, Marsh, Huddersfield HD1 4NX. Tel: (0484) 536108. *Stand 307A*
BBC - Does He Take Sugar?, Broadcasting House, London W1A 1AA. Tel: 01-580 4468. *Stand 1D*
Community Care, 4th Floor, Carew House, Wallington, Surrey SM6 0DX. Tel: 01-661 3500. *Stand 1E*
Disability Now, 12 Park Crescent, London W1N 4EQ. Tel: 01-636 5020. Come and say hello! *Stand 324*

Disability Now
will be on stand 324
at Alexandra Palace.
Stop by and say hello!

Equipment for the Disabled, Mary Marlborough Lodge, Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre, Headington, Oxford OX3 7LD. Tel: (0865) 750103. NHS-sponsored handbook and directory of disability equipment. *Stand 312A*
Handicapped Services Guide, CGB Publishing, 38 Hoghton Street, Southport, Merseyside PR9 9PQ. Tel: (0704) 47722. Full of equipment information and ads. *Stand 293*
Sell's Publications Ltd, 55 High Street, Epsom, Surrey KT19 8DN. Tel: (03727) 26376. *Stand 347*
Souvenir Press Ltd, 43 Great Russell Street, London WC1B 3PA. Tel: 01-580 9307. Much-praised Human Horizons books on disability for professionals, parents and families. 60 titles. *Stand 18*
Therapy Weekly, Macmillan Journals, 4 Little Essex Street, London WC2R 3LF. Tel: 01-836 6633. *Stand 1A*

REHABILITATION/NURSING

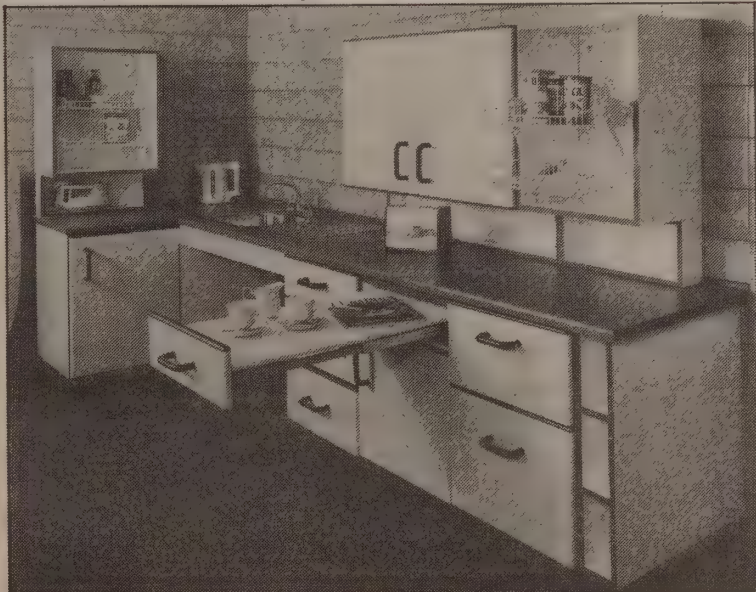
Anatomia, 21 Hampstead Road, Euston Centre, London NW1 3JA. Tel: 01-387 5700. *Stand 147*
Arjo Mecanoids Ltd, St Catherine Street, Gloucester GL1 2SL. Tel: (0452) 500200. *Stands 214-217 & 238-241*
ASM Accessories, Picow Farm Industrial Estate, Picow Farm Lane, Runcorn, Cheshire. Tel: (09285) 74301. On show will be a new range of home health care products, including lounge, bedroom and dining room furniture, bathing, toileting and showering equipment. *Stands 195-196 & 203-204*
British Castors Ltd, Golds Green Works, Bagnall Street, Hill Top, W Bromwich, W Midlands B70 0UA. Tel: 021-556 7221. Featuring the new Medic 315 puncture-free wheel for manual and powered wheelchairs. *Stand 143*
Charnwood Surgical Ltd, 1122 Melton Road, Syston, Leicester LE7 8HA. Tel: (0533) 600812. Showing the Charnwood Comfort pressure prevention system. *Stand 257*
Colson Castors (Europe) Ltd, Hingley Road, Halesowen, W Midlands B63 2RR. Tel: (0384) 893535. *Stand 31*
Europa Distribution Co, Rawlings House, Milner Street, London SW3 4BD. Tel: 01-589 8158. *Stand 80*
Hewi UK Ltd, Scimitar Close, Gillingham Business Park, Gillingham, Kent ME9 0RN. Tel: (0634) 377688. Hewi produce a wide range of nylon handles and grips. *Stand 331B*
Hodgson & Leslie Ltd, Unit 24, Woburn Industrial Estate, Singer Way, Kempston, Bedford MK24 7AE. Tel: (0234) 857454. *Stand 45*
Huntex Corporation, No 35-3, Lane 165, Hsin Sheng South Road, Section 1, Taipei 10626, Taiwan. Makers of body support aids. *Stand 275H*
Keadi GmbH, Fichtenstrasse 1, D-6741 Essingen, West Germany. Tel: 01049 634 72784. *Stand 386*

F Llewellyn & Co Ltd, Regent House, 1 Regent Road, Liverpool L3 7BX. Tel: 051-236 5311. *Stands 253-256*
Luconex Inc, 353A Vintage Park Drive, Foster City, CA 94404 USA. Tel: 0101 415 3770155. *Stand 276*
Medeci Rehab Ltd, Research Unit, Warley Hospital, Brentwood, Essex. Tel: (0277) 212637. This new organisation making products for disabled people will show a bath seat and bath board. *Stand 81*
Microscan UK Ltd, Suite 65, London House, 271-273 Kings Street, London W6. Tel: 01-748 9314. *Stand 307G*
Henry Murray Medical Ltd, O'Rahilly Hall, Church Terrace, Bray, Co Wicklow, Ireland. Tel: 0001-860424. *Stand 298*
Nottingham Rehab Ltd, 17 Ludlow Hill, Melton Road, W Bridgeford, Nottingham NG2 6HD. Tel: (0602) 234251. *Stands 168-170*
Norton Engineering Alloys Co Ltd, Norton Grove Industrial Estate, Norton, Malton, N Yorks YO17 9HQ. Tel: (0653) 695721. *Stand 117*
Ottobock Orthopaedic UK Ltd, 32 Parsonage Road, Englefield Green, Egham, Surrey TW20 0TW. Tel: (0784) 38841. *Stand 94*
F J Payne (Man.) Ltd, Stanton Harcourt Road, Eynsham, Oxford. Tel: (0865) 881881. Among new products on show will be a shower chair with a modern, hygienic chassis. *Stand 124*
PCP Gratings Ltd, Steetley Industrial Estate, Bean Road, Coseley, Bil-

road, Pleck, Walsall WS2 9RN. Tel: (0922) 27601. *Stand 331D*
Wardray Products Ltd, Hampton Court Estate, Summer Road, Thames Ditton, Surrey KT7 0SP. Tel: 01-398 9911. *Stand 307F*
Welland Medical Supplies, Unit 12, Centre House, Wimbledon Street, Leicester LE1 1SN. Tel: (0533) 516912. *Stand 331A*

SEATING

Bay Jacobsen, Auriema House, 442 Bath Road, Slough SL1 6BB. Tel: (0628) 71882. *Stand 5*
Camp Ltd, Northgate House, Staple Gardens, Winchester, Hants SO23 8ST. Tel: (0962) 55248. *Stands 100 & 101*
J Cinamon Ltd (Cintique), Andrews Road, Cambridge Heath, London E8 4RN. Tel: 01-254 1262. *Stand 429*
Forwood Designs Ltd, The Mews, Mitcheldean, Glos GL17 0SL. Tel: (0594) 542181. *Stand 331F*
Hemco, Unit 17, Llandow Industrial Estate, Cowbridge, S Glamorgan CF7 7PE. Tel: (04463) 3393. *Stands 242 & 243*
M Hogarth & Sons Ltd, Princes Street, Corbridge on Tyne NE45 5AE. Tel: (043471) 2134. *Stand 245*
Jenx Ltd, 72 Hoyland Road, Sheffield S3 8AB. Tel: (0742) 756312. Introducing a new Prone-angle Chair for children. *Stand 277*
Kirton Designs, Bungay Road, Hemphall, Norwich NR15 2NG. Tel: (0508) 428411. The Stratton Suite, a



The Phlexiplan studio kitchen by Nicholls & Clarke.

ston, W Midlands WV14 9EE. Tel: (09073) 75824. Exhibiting a range of portable and folding aluminium wheelchair ramps. *Stand 69*
Reduce Swing Doors Ltd, 21 St Mary's Road, Sindlesham, Wokingham, Berks RG11 5DA. Tel: (0734) 792021. Ellipse and ADR Swing Doors can solve difficult access problems in building design. *Stand 392*
Remploy Medical Products Ltd, Russ Street, Broad Plain, Bristol BS2 0HJ. Tel: (0272) 277512. Showing an improved range of Remmedi footwear. *Stand 331*
Rifton Equipment, Darvell, Robertsbridge, East Sussex TN32 5DR. Tel: (0580) 880626. *Stands 366 & 383*
Roma Medical Aids Ltd, Llandow Industrial Estate, Cowbridge, S Glamorgan. Tel: (04463) 4519. *Stands 356 & 357*
Roman Spa, 30 Princess Victoria Street, Clifton, Bristol B58 4BZ. Tel: (0272) 744960. The Roman Spa kit converts your bath into a hydromassage spa. *Stand 66*
Security Alert, Pug House, Waterlow Road, Reigate, Surrey RH2 7EX. Tel: (07372) 48148. *Stand 202*
G & S Smirhwaite, Unit 11, Rydon Industrial Estate, Newton Road, Newton Abbott, S Devon TQ12 3RX. Tel: (0626) 56973. *Stand 16*
South Coast Hydro Baths, Heaton House, 20/22 Reigate Road, Worthing, W Sussex BN11 5NE. Tel: (0903) 504503. *Stand 327*
Spenco Medical (UK) Ltd, Burrell Road, Haywards Heath, W Sussex RH16 1TW. Tel: (0444) 415171. *Stand 36*
Hugh Steeper Ltd, Unit 7, Hunslet Industrial Estate, Severn Road, Leeds LS10 4BL. Tel: (0532) 704841. *Stands 16 & 17*
R Taylor & Son (Orthopaedic) Ltd, Compton Work, 49 Woodwards

new domestic-style suite, will be launched. Settees and armchairs slightly smaller than conventional furniture. Also, the new Wolfson chair for the rehabilitation of stroke victims. *Stands 12-13 & 264-265*
Palatine Products Ltd, Whickham View, Newcastle upon Tyne NE15 6UN. Tel: 091-274 5620. *Stands 145 & 146*
Parker Care, PO Box 22, The Court Yard, Frogmoor, High Wycombe, Bucks HP13 5DJ. Tel: (0494) 21144. *Stands 82 & 83*
The Powell Seat Co Ltd, 70 Lodge Lane, Derbys DE1 3HB. Tel: (0332) 47757. Showing high seat chairs, spring-operated lifting chairs and electrically operated lifting chairs. *Stands 42 & 57*
Stowaway Furniture and Design Co, 44/46 Bunyan Road, Kempston, Bedford MK42 8HL. Tel: (0234) 854993. Introducing a new range of Controller armchairs, which provide support for even very severely disabled people. *Stands 48 & 49*
AJ Way & Co Ltd, Riverlock House, Spring Gardens Road, High Wycombe, Bucks HP13 7AG. Tel: (0494) 27507. *Stands 7 & 8*

TOYS/EDUCATION

Combat Tricycles, Unit 44, Telford Industrial Estate, Stafford Park 4, Telford, Shrops TF3 3BA. Tel: (0952) 290279. *Stand 307A*
Jigadoo Ltd, FREEPOST, Leigh NN7 1YY. Tel: (0942) 675086. *Stand 307K*
Rompa, PO Box 5, Wheatbridge Road, Chesterfield, Derbyshire S40 2AE. Tel: (0246) 211777. As well as their soft play and Snoezelen toy ranges, Rompa now make soft furnishings. *Stands 205 & 206*
Supa-Bounce Ltd, Newton Road, Harrowbrook Industrial Estate, Hinckley, Leics LE10 3DS. Tel:

(0455) 636478. Several new inflatables are added to their ball-pool and soft-play products. *Stand 247*
Toys for the Handicapped, 76 Barracks Road, Sandy Lane Industrial Estate, Stourport on Severn, Worcs DY13 9QUB. Tel: (0299) 827820. As well as their established range, TFH will be showing the new White Tower sensory stimulation room and music-making toys. *Stands 73-76*

VISION AIDS

Alphavision, Copyground Lane, High Wycombe, Bucks HP12 3HE. Tel: (0494) 30555. *Stand 315A*
Sight & Sound Technology Ltd, Qantel House, St James Mill Road, Northampton NN5 5JW. Tel: (0604) 587091. *Stand 315D*
Visionaid Systems Ltd, The Old School, The Green, Ruddington, Notts. *Stand 315B*

WALKING AIDS

Joncare (Meadjess Ltd), 7 Ashville Trading Estate, Nuffield Way, Abingdon, Oxon OX14 1RL. Tel: (0235) 28120. Seventy-five per cent of the products will be brand new, including lift and elevating chairs and Gel cushions. *Stands 320 & 321*
Uniscan Ltd, 12 Samson House, Arterial Road, Laindon, Basildon, Essex SS15 6DR. Tel: (0268) 419288. Uniscan's latest walking aid is the Shopper, which only weighs 8lbs and can fold flat for easy transportation but has a large shopping basket, wheels and a seat. *Stand 305*

WHEELCHAIRS/WHEELCHAIR EQUIPMENT

Alvema AB, Box 8344, S-16300 Spanga, Sweden. Tel: 01046 8761 7620. *Stand 328*
Bencraft Ltd, The Avenue, Rubery, Birmingham B45 9AP. Tel: 021-453 1055. *Stands 182 & 183*
Bromakin Ltd, Unit 1, Falcon Street, Loughborough, Leics LE11 1EH. Tel: (0509) 217569. *Stands 50 & 51*
Carters (J & A) Ltd, Alfred Street, Westbury, Wilts BA13 3DZ. Tel: (0373) 822203. *Stands 411-415 & 425-428*
Chairpower Ltd, Avondale, Freshford, Bath BA3 6BX. Tel: (0221) 223755. The indoor-outdoor Squirrel has a new electronic joystick control in addition to its unique 4-wheel drive, steering and braking system. *Stands 430-433 & 443-446*
Creamfine Ltd, Dutton Road, Aldermans Green Industrial Estate, Coventry CV2 2LE. Tel: (0203) 610138. *Stand 258*
Disablement Services Authority, Room 107, Block Y, Government Buildings, Warbeck Hill Road, Blackpool FY2 0UZ. Tel: (0253) 856123 ext 5675. *Stands 162-164 & 179-181*
DMA Rehabilitation Ltd, Litchard Industrial Estate, Bridgend, Mid Glamorgan CF31 2AL. Tel: (0656) 57495. Launching the new Victor lightweight aluminium chair, with swing-away arm and foot rests and quick-release wheels. Also launching a new self-propelled shower chair. *Stand 158-161*
Gerald Simonds Wheelchairs, 9 March Place, Gatehouse Way, Aylesbury, Bucks HP19 3UG. Tel: (0296) 36557. Showing the lightweight Kuschall Charisma, the sporting Competition and the easy-folding Special. Also the ultralight Quickie GP and flyweight Swede Elite, and the Jay Medical range of wheelchair cushions. *Stands 172-175*
Hancock & Lane Ltd, South March, Long March Industrial Estate, Daventry, Northants NN11 4PH. Tel: (0788) 540094. Exhibiting Le Chair, a general-purpose, lightweight folding wheelchair. *Stand 303A*
Holliday's, 27 Penhale Road, Carnhell Green, Camborne, Cornwall TR14 0LT. Tel: (0209) 831815. Showing a specially designed Wheelchair Blanket which attaches to the chair. Fire resistant and machine washable. Also the Multi-Wrap for easychairs and car seats. *Stand 307L*
Lanfold Healthcare, Unit 18, Vanguard Way, Vanguard Industrial Estate, Shoeburyness, Essex SS3. Tel: (0702) 297388. *Stand 400*
Lieuse Technology Ltd, 6 Horn-ton Place, London W8 4LZ. Tel: 01-938 1762. Introducing the new

WHEELCHAIRS/SCOOTERS

Batricar Ltd, Tanlaw Park, East Street, Chard, Somerset TA20 1EP. Tel: (0460) 67681. Showing the new Batricar 24 Deluxe 4-wheeler and a new all-weather cabin to fit on all the 4-wheeler range. *Stands 284-285 & 401*
Booster Electric Vehicles Ltd, Newsome Mills, Newsome, Huddersfield, W Yorks HD4 6LS. Tel: (0484) 515511. The Booster Town & Country scooter is the first and only electric vehicle to be awarded Design Centre Selection. *Stands 370 & 380*
Electric Leisure Vehicles Ltd, 17 St Georges Industrial Estate, Frimley, Camberley, Surrey, GU15 2QW. Tel: (0276) 20225. *Stands 387-388 & 398-399*
Electric Mobility Corporation, Sea King Road, Lynx Trading Estate, Yeovil, Somerset BA20 2NZ. Tel: (0935) 22156. *Stand 364*
Everaids Ltd, 38 Clifton Road, Cambridge CB1 4ZT. Tel: (0223) 243336. Showing the Eversit range of bright-coloured glass fibre seat shells on an adjustable steel framework. Also the Dolphin, which supports a child in the water. *Stands 430-433 & 443-446*
Everest & Jennings Ltd, Princewood Road, Earlstree Industrial Estate, Corby, Northants NN14 2HS. Tel: (0536) 67661. *Stands 371-373 & 378-379*
Kensington Traders Ltd, Unit 11, Mulberry Business Centre, Quebec Way, London SE16 1AA. Tel: 01-232 1746. *Stand 303*
Ortho-Kinetics (UK) Ltd, Gaffney House, 190 Commercial Road, Totton, Southampton, Hants SO4 3ZZ. Tel: (0703) 866323. *Stands 434-442*
Raymar, PO Box 16, Henley on Thames, Oxon RG9 1AG. Tel: (0491) 578446. Raymar Mobility will be showing the portable, powered Solo and other vehicles. Also, the TENS nerve-stimulating pain controller and range of Roho cushions. *Stands 19-22*
Sunrise Medical, Fens Poole Avenue, Wallows Industrial Estate, Brierley Hill, W Midlands DY5 1QA. Tel: (0384) 263191. Promoting their Minivator personal lifts, Guardian canes and walkers and Bio Clinic therapeutic comfort aids. *Stands 110-114 & 125-129*
Triaid Ltd, 32 Welbeck Road, Darnley Industrial Estate, Glasgow G53 7SD. Tel: 041-881 2273. *Stand 54*
Vessa Ltd, Paper Mill Lane, Alton, Hants GU34 2PY. Tel: (0420) 83294. The kerb-climbing Vitesse has been upgraded with a new "thinking controller" to ensure smooth performance. Also showing the Menox 10 ultralight folding chair for active people. *Stands 416-418 & 423-424*

Driving assessment centres for disabled people (2)

Continuing DN's first-ever survey in the UK, conducted by disabled drivers

Alfred Bekker
Langtoft, Driffield
North Humberside YO25 0TF
tel: (0377) 87276

Roy Dredge comments:
Alfred Bekker is world renowned for hand controls for the disabled driver, but he also does driver assessments – and runs a purpose-built hotel you can stay at. Assessment starts as soon as you arrive: there's a welcoming cup of tea or coffee which will also reveal your hand control. A very practical system is used of driving around country roads in dual-control cars to judge your ability and road awareness; you may be able to steer and brake on a simulator, but be lost in traffic. For simpler assessment, requiring a particular adaptation, an agent can call on you at home. Of 100 agents, 63 are disabled and they try to match an agent and a client with the same disability. A very good service is given at Langtoft. You are treated as a person and made to feel at home. Severely disabled drivers can be helped too because Alfred Bekker can re-adapt on site. I got an appointment within 2 weeks.

Derby Disabled Driving Centre
Kingsway Hospital
Kingsway, Derby DE3 3LZ
tel: (0332) 371929

Roy Dredge comments:
It was refreshing to find a centre in a city. It was easily accessible and being in the grounds of a hospital a medical team is handy. Closure of part of the hospital complex has given the centre 2 1/2 miles of private road-way – a good test because there are other vehicles and pedestrians. They have built a steep incline for practising hill starts. The testing equipment is basic: the simulator is the front end of a Mini, with various adaptations. And the area covered by the centre seems ambitious. But this was still a good set up with interested, willing people, who were particularly helpful on the phone. I had to wait 6 weeks for an appointment because people were on holiday.

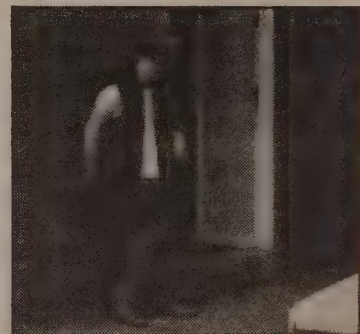
Cleveland Disabled Drivers Centre
Unit 8, Letitia Ind. Estate
Middlesbrough, Cleveland TS5 4BE
tel: (0642) 222755

Roy Dredge comments:
This was a poor excuse for an assessment centre. The access was terrible. While the roadway near

Centre	Area covered	Access-ible, with toilet	Teams *	Wheel-chair assess-ment	Mobile unit*	Private test circuit	Vehicles	Car adapt-ations	Adapts car adapta-tions to indi-vidual need	No age limit	Group decision on assess-ment
Alfred Bekker	UK	✓	D	✓	✓	✓	3	very wide range	✓	✓	✓
Cleveland Disabled Drivers Centre	Cleveland and North East	toilet ✓ building ✕	✕	✕	✕	✕	1	limited range	✓	✓	✕
Derby Disabled Driving Centre	London to Newcastle	✓	M/O/P T/D	✕	✓	✓	1	limited range	✓	✓	✓
Edinburgh Driving Assessment Service Vehicle Centre	Scotland and N. England	✓*	M/T	✕	✓**	✓	2	very limited range	✓	✓	✓
NICD School of Motoring	N. Ireland	✓	D	✕	✕	✕	1	very limited range	✕	✓	✕
Wales Disabled Drivers Assessment Centre	Wales	✓	✕	✓	✓	✕	✕	✕	✕	✓	✓
KEY ✓ = Yes ✕ = No		* Doubt if wheelchair could get into the toilet	* M = medical O = orthopaedic P = psychological T = therapy D = driving instruction		* Will go to people's homes ** Once a year						
Centre (continued)	Assess-ment in one day	Disabled client included in final assess-ment	Written reports to:	Car assess-ment	4 mph vehicle assess-ment	Static assess-ment (simu-lator)	Driving tuition	Assess-ment fee	Brochure	Funded by:	
Alfred Bekker	✓	✓	If required	✓	✕	✕	£8.50 per hour	free	✓	The company	
Cleveland Disabled Drivers Centre	✓	✓	✕	✕	✕	✕	✕	free	✓	Training Commission, CE-DEMP, charges for adaptations	
Derby Disabled Driving Centre	✓	✓	C/GP DVLC	✓	✕	✓	✕	free	✕	Regional Health Authority	
Edinburgh Driving Assessment Service Vehicle Centre	✓	✓	C/GP DVLC	✓	✓	✓	✕	free	✓	3-year project: Scottish Home and Health Dept, Lothian Health Board	
NICD School of Motoring	✓	✓	C	✕	✕	✓	£8 per hour	£10	✓	Northern Ireland Council on Disability	
Wales Disabled Drivers Assessment Centre	✓	✓	C/GP DVLC	✕	✓	✓	£4.50-7.50 per hour	£5	✓	Welsh Office	
			* C = client GP = doctor DVLC = Driver Vehicle Licensing Centre (GP and DVLC usually with permission of client)								

the centre had been resurfaced, the road outside was all potholes. You had to get over a 6-7 in step at the front door and the office was up a flight of stairs. A more suitable entrance at the rear was not signposted. This is a fairly new project, run by disabled people. It is more an information

point for lightly-disabled people; I doubt if they could assess someone with a major handicap. A clapped-out Mini is being adapted as a demonstration vehicle, but meanwhile they rely on a private driving instructor with an adapted car. Friendly and helpful, but very basic. I waited 4 weeks for an appointment.



Roy Dredge and the step.

Edinburgh Driving Assessment Service Vehicle Centre
Astley Ainslie Hospital
133 Grange Loan
Edinburgh EH9 2HL
tel: 031-447 6271 x 5211

Roy Dredge comments:
The map was inaccurate, with at least five roads omitted. There was a flight of stairs to the occupational therapist's office where I learnt that assessments are done in another, accessible, building – normally by the occupational therapist, but once a week by a doctor. The atmosphere was clinical. The equipment was basic: there were no computers and the simulator had to be reset by hand every time, so I doubt if it was very accurate. It all needs up-dating. Appointment: 2 months.

NICD School of Motoring
2 Annadale Avenue
Belfast BT7 3JR
tel: (0232) 491011

Stuart Walker comments:
There is only one person, a qualified driving instructor, who carries out assessments and facilities are few. But the atmosphere is friendly and relaxed and you are treated in a positive way. The local Rehabilitation Engineering Centre can make specialised adaptations for individual needs, but they can only be fitted to your own car. I waited 6 weeks for an appointment.

Wales Disabled Drivers Assessment Centre
18 Plas Newydd
Whitchurch
Cardiff CF4 1NR
tel: (0222) 615276

Kevin Holmes comments:
The centre is in a converted shop on a council estate north-west of Cardiff, with excellent access. It is run by one lady who is very keen to get disabled people mobile. However, her resources are limited. She has only temporary staff, brought in as needed, and clients are referred to other agencies – eg medical testing to the local hospital, driving assessment to "tame" driving schools, one of which has a vehicle with hand controls. The simulator is very basic. A vehicle and a qualified instructor permanently linked to the centre would improve the service. No appointment needed.

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'88 SEOUL PARALYMPICS

Seoul-ong folks! Here's wishing good luck to the 242 British athletes picked to run, jump and push for medals at the 8th Paralympics in the South Korean capital, starting 8 October.

They will be among 4,000 competitors from more than 60 countries and 5 disability groups.

Unlike the able-bodied British occupants of the Olympic village before them, the team is one of the strongest going to Seoul and hotly fancied to bring back a good selection of gold medals.

There are several world-record holders in the squad and many other outstanding athletes there with a good chance of world-class performances.

Between them, the 5 disability organisations collaborating under the umbrella of the British Sports Association for the Disabled have raised £250,000 to send the athletes to the games.

Sports Minister Colin Moynihan contributed a £10,000 cheque raised from his own charity cycle-ride.

On television after the final get-together, he said his greatest ambition as Sports Minister is to get proper recognition for disabled sport-people by getting them off the news pages and into the sports section of the press.

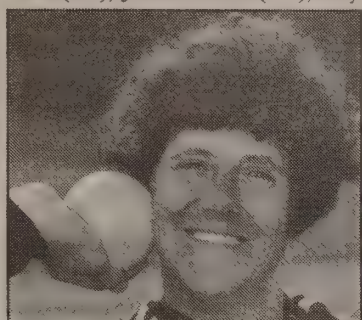
This is a golden opportunity.

Archery

Wilma Anic (TP), Ernie Arnold (TP), Marjorie Clark (AL), Wendy Cooke (AL), Joan Cooper (TP), Alan Corrie (TP), Robert Cox (AL), Thomas Darks (AL), Stuart Douglas (TP), Sandy Gregory (TP), Michael Hervey-Murray (TP), Karen Watts (TP), Terry Winter (AL)

Athletics

Tony Andrews (TP), Patrick Bailey (TP), Kevan Baker (TP), Peter Barnes (AL), Isabel Barr (TP), Robert Barrett (AL), Mike Bishop (TP), Paul Brennan (AL), Stephen Brunt (BL), Norman Burns (CP), Simon Butler (BL), Peter Carruthers (TP), Dean Cavanagh (AL), Brian Clarke (CP), Peter Cordice (AL), Nigel Coultas (AL), Karen Davidson (AL), Gavin Devaney (TP), Mark Farnell (BL), Daniel Furey (CP), Tanni Grey (TP), Ernest Guild (TP), Chris Hallam (TP), Anthony Hamilton (BL), Kendra Hargreaves (AL), John Harris (TP), Ian Hayden (AL), Mark Hill (TP), Andrew Hodge (TP), Ron Hodges (AL), Terry Hopkins (TP), Steve Houlden (AL), Terry Hudson (CP), Leslie Jones (TP), Colin Keay (CP), Robert Latham (BL), Joe Lawrence (TP), Brian Lessiter (AL), Gerard McConnell (CP), Kevin McGee (AL), Kevan McNicholas (TP), Robert Matthews (BL), Michele Message (BL), Richard Moreton (CP), Tom O'Brian (AL), James Richardson (TP), Frank Richards (AL), Dorothy Ripley (TP), Gordon Robertson (CP), Denise Ross (BL), James Sands (CP), Roy



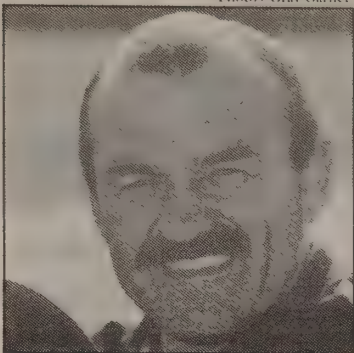
Dorothy Ripley: athletics & shooting

Scotland (CP), Anne Swann (CP), Stephen Syndercombe (CP), Kerry Taylor (CP), Noel Thatcher (BL), Edwin Thomas (AL), Ann Trotman (CP), Michael Walker (CP), Jonathan Ward (BL), Ronnie West (AL), Paul Williams (CP), Peter Williams (AL), Tony Willis (AL), Ann Woffinden (CP).

Basketball

(All TP) Ann Bingham, Mark Cheaney, Fiona Christie, Josie Cichockyj, Phil Craven, Dale Cunningham, Kathy Davies, Callum Gordon, Joe Jayaratne, Dan Johnson, Dave Kelly, Tracey Lewis, Susan McMahon, Garry Peel, Colin Price, Chris Rolt, Nigel Smith, Tony Stokell, Mark Tong, Caz Walton, Ann Wild.

Photos: Gray Garner



John Harris: discus world champion

Boccia

(All CP) Carol Johnson, Chris Morris, Peter Pearse, Dean Thomas, Steve Varden, Di Wiscombe, Ann Woffinden.

Cycling

Hugh Culverhouse (AL),

Lawn Bowling

Ernie Arnold (TP), James Bould (AL), Ken Bridgeman (TP), Mark Butler (TP), Bob Carmichael (TP), Richard Coates (AL), Kevin Ellison (TP), Ralph Foster (AL), John Gronow (TP), Yvonne Hawtin (TP), Tony Jarvis (AL), Mike Kenny (TP), Robert Love (AL), David Peacock, Mary Ralfs (TP), Hazel Randall (TP), Neil Shaw (AL), John Warham (AL), Bernard Wessier (AL),

Fencing

(All TP) Jack Bradley, Brian Dickinson, Mike Hanney, Alan Kelly, Deborah Mabbett, Jim Parkinson, Suzannah Rockett, Cyril Thomas, Caz Walton.



Don't tangle with the British Blind judo team!

Goalball

Christine Barrow (BL), Anita Deb (BL), Laura Evans (BL), Sasha MacFarlane (BL), Helen Reynolds (BL).

Judo

(All BL) Paul Hatfield, David Hodgkins, David Hurst, Simon Jackson, Paul Lewis, Terry Powell, Alan Sloman.

Shooting

Isabel Barr (TP), Tom Campbell (TP), Cameron Chislett (TP), Deanna Coates (TP), Alan Corrie (TP), Evelyn Dicks (AL), Brian Faulkner (TP), Anne Gray (TP), Carl Hepple (TP), Victor Jocelyn (AL), Gill Middleton (TP), Keith Morriss (AL), Pete Pienarosa (AL), Phil Sadler (AL), Ray Spencer (AL), Michael Watson (AL), Geoff White (AL).



Robin Surgeoner, swimming champ

Key - (TP): tetraplegic/paraplegic, (CP): cerebral palsy, (BL): blind, (AL): amputee/les autres

Snooker

(All TP) Kevin Ellison, Brian Faulkner, Maurice Job, Keith Jones, Mick Langley, George Purdie.

Swimming

Pete Aldous (AL), Dianne Barr (AL), Andrew Blake (TP), Janice Burton (BL), Mark Butler (TP), Louise Byles (TP), Gordon Crowe (AL), Jeanette Esling (AL), Tara Flood (AL), Andrew Gilbert (AL), Beverley Gull (TP), Chris Hallam (TP), Clive Hanford (AL), Paul Hancock (CP), Christopher Holmes (BL), Irene Hotchin (AL), Peter Hull (AL), Oliver Jones (AL), Mike Kenny (TP), Helen Lewis (AL), Mary-Ann Low (BL), Angela McDowell (BL), Martin

ver (CP), Robin Surgeoner (CP), Anna Tizzard (AL), Ann Trotman (CP), Linda Walters (AL), Emma Watkin (BL), Mark Williams (AL), Marc Woods (AL), Brian Worrall (TP), Thelma Young (AL).

Table Tennis

Chris Ball (TP), Val Beck (TP), Arnie Chan (TP), Philip Clayton (TP), Tom Doughty (TP), Martin Evans (TP), Philip Evans (TP), Dave Hope (AL), Debbie Jackman (AL), Keith Jones (TP), Billy Leake (TP), Don MacIver (AL), James Munkley (TP), Ann Pesky (TP), John Pyne (TP), James Rawson (TP), Neil Robinson (TP), Anne Smith (AL), Peter Taylor (AL), Dave Young (AL).



The Les Autres muscle-men of the weightlifting team.

Volleyball

(All AL) Peter Barnes, Fred Church, Gerry Dillon, John Fisher, Ken Greatbatch, John Macleod, Robert Morrish, Iain Park, Jason Williams, Tony Willis.

Weightlifting

Alper Ali (AL), Chris Bantin (AL), Tony Bishop (AL), Rudi Christopher (TP), Brian Harper (TP), Jimmy Jamieson (TP), Fred MacKenzie (AL), Anthony Peddle (TP), John Povey (AL), Nicholas Slater (AL), Brian Stones (TP), Jim Tatton (AL), Russell Willey (TP).

A back-up team of 65 staff will accompany the competitors, headed by: Barry Schofield (team administrator), Dr Bob Price (head of delegation), Tony Sainsbury (team manager), Dr Ernie Cooke (team doctor), Carole Bradley (swimming co-ordinator) and John Whetton (athletics coach).

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Please arrange free advisory visit Yes/No

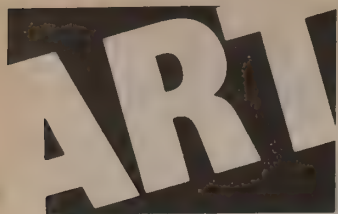
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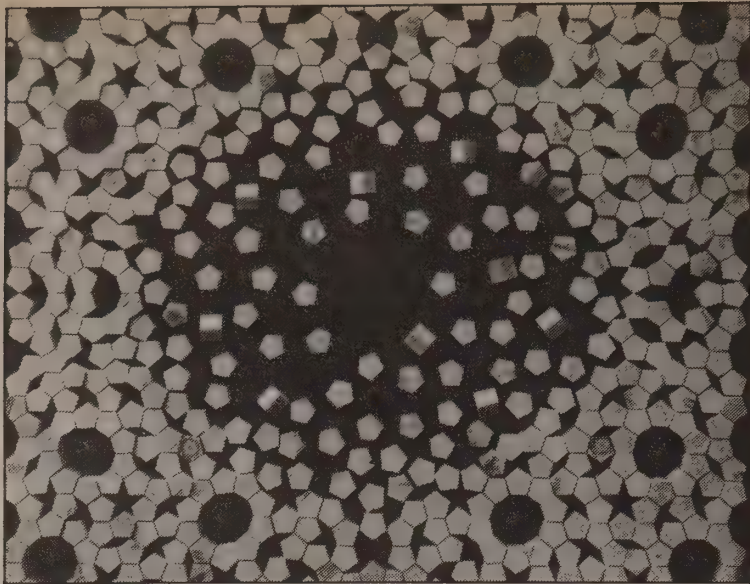


An Eye for Art

Amidst the trees and tranquillity of London's Gunnersbury Park *An Eye for Art* opened last month, a new exhibition organised jointly by RNIB and Gunnersbury Park Museum.

It was conceived as an exhibition of visual art by artists with a variety of visual impairments. This is, of course, a direct challenge to traditional concepts of 'blindness', and the exhibition successfully destroys the notion that people with residual or restricted vision simply do not bother with it but instead magically develop hyper-sensitive hearing etc.

The eight artists whose work is shown all clearly have a highly developed visual sense. In every case the work fits naturally into a gallery showcase, in the sense



A collage in wood, by Andy Kalavazides

that these people are all clearly artists of talent.

The knowledge that they are united by the fact that each is visually impaired in some way serves to add another layer of interest to the work.

Through presenting work of such a high standard (and incidentally, highly diverse in its stylistic and conceptual approaches) the organisers suc-

ceed in challenging the viewers' preconceptions. I applaud them and have no doubt that it will spark off a long and lively debate.

Alongside *An Eye for Art* are selected entries from the first RNIB painting competition for visually impaired children.

The competition work (shown with that of guests from a school in Greece) makes for an enjoyable, colourful and thought-provoking exhibition.

Finally, there are a large number of Duncan Johnston's touch-oriented wood-sculptures scattered throughout.

All the exhibition is wheelchair accessible. There is a highly informative catalogue (price 50p) in small or large print and a cassette introduction.

During the show a number of free workshops have been arranged: a handling session of items from the museum's collection; dance and movement with Wolfgang Stange; and a monoprint and sculpture workshop. For dates, times and bookings ring Julia Shelley on 01-992 1612.

Also, on 19 October at 6.15 a discussion will take place at RNIB on "Art, Art Education and Visual Impairment."

Adam Reynolds

An Eye for Art is at Gunnersbury Park Museum, London, until 23 October. Mon-Fri 1-5pm, Sat 2-6pm.

Television of the future: more room for disability?

For the International Television Festival in Edinburgh at the end of August I had been awarded one of 50 "newcomers" places, the only disabled person to get one.

Access, as I had been warned, could be summed up as "steps". Steps to go up to the seminars; steps to go down to receptions. I don't mean five or six; the average was twenty. As far as I was concerned, every venue was inaccessible.

Even the marquee, which we assumed would be accessible because Chris Davies was a guest speaker on the telethon seminar, wasn't. After negotiating wet, muddy steps, the wheelchair slowly began to sink into the mud, whilst my pusher narrowly escaped a hernia trying to get it out.

The theme of the festival was new programmes. At a seminar, "TV in the Nineties", a panel made up of the cream of the television industry told 600 delegates how the future of television was going to be, with particular emphasis on satellite TV.

Jim Styles, managing director of Sky Channel said it is considering new ideas for television programmes.

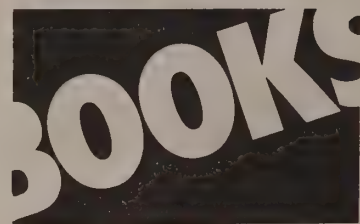
Hearing this, I made a dash to grab Mr Styles after the seminar — along with 400 other people. I wanted to ask him if they had considered any programmes for the disabled audience and if not, would they. Unfortunately, I was crushed in the rush to get to him.

There was a debate about how telethons portray disabled people, instigated by Kevin Mulhern of *Link* through the advisory committee. Is it the brave, disabled person overcoming, with carefully chosen heart-felt music in the background, that gets the phonelines buzzing?

Most delegates praised the concept of telethons and assured us that disabled people are consulted about how films will be presented. But when Alan Boyd, controller of TVS, referred to Mark Ross, aged 20 plus, the brittle bone guy featured on the May Bank Holiday telethon, as "Little Mark", I had my doubts.

Chris Davies said there had to be more consultation with disabled programme makers, such as those on *Link* or *Same Difference*. Instead of the usual image evoking pity, self-advocacy should now be portrayed.

Pam Roberts



House Adaptations for People with Physical Disabilities

by Rosemary Stratham, Jean Korczak and Philip Monaghan (HMSO £17.50, from HMSO Publications Centre, PO Box 276, London SW8 5DT)

Many therapists, architects and others involved in adapting houses or providing new housing for people with disabilities have used Selwyn Goldsmith's admirable reference book, *De-*

signing for the Disabled (RIBA publications).

Now a new book from the Department of the Environment gives an insight into a whole range of problems which might be encountered in the preparation of adaptations.

When I first looked at it, I expected a self-congratulatory description of a series of adaptations organised by the authors (2 occupational therapists and an architect). But it is not like that at all. The 22 case studies were drawn from a wide range of types of disability, housing and family composition and different types of local authority.

The book copes surprisingly well with evaluating the adaptations. The criticism is constructive and seems to acknowledge that there is no single way to solve a problem. It also takes account of the effect of the adaptation on the person for whom it was built, which makes interesting reading in some cases.

There are no instant, easily copied solutions to individual specific problems. The book underlines the importance of considering individual needs rather than providing something which fits the person into the property.

Reading the book, disabled people too might find ideas to consider, a view of what might be possible, and a flavour of what may lie ahead.

Although the price may put off some people, I hope it becomes widely available. It could extend the repertoire of therapists, architects and housing professionals and help them to see the consumer's view.

My only criticisms are the lack of guidelines for potential consumers and, seemingly, no indication that people with sensory disability or mental handicap might be able to benefit from adapted housing too. The preface seemed to be a fairly typical disclaimer.

The book will wet your appetite. But the reality may be that administrative procedures in your area are not as good as they are in some of these case studies and improvement grants are not as easily available.

Frank Ward



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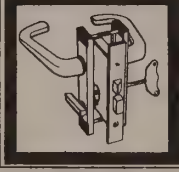





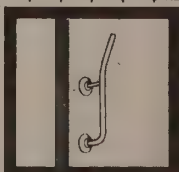
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FRINDIIGLI

Jim Filbin reports on the 1988 Fringe Festival

Heart and Bone

The rehearsed reading of *Heart and Bone* by the young playwright Stephen Greenhorn, at the Lyceum Studio, brilliantly caught the dilemmas of disabled people and the community's response to them.

The play concerns Alan, who has recently become quadriplegic through an accident, and Mike his volunteer helper on attachment for four months.

It shrewdly explores the growing relationship between the two young men through the small-change of daily living.

Joan, Alan's social worker, also plays an important part, tactfully looking in and helping him cope with the community at large.

The crises occasionally produced by Alan's condition and the need for him to live as normally as possible are outstandingly handled, particularly when Alan breaks with his girlfriend and has to cope with the implications of his condition with all the emotional and sexual complications attached. Mike and Joan have to work very hard to persuade Alan not to shut himself away from people.

It is very poignant when Mike's 4 months are up and both men realise how much they are going to miss each other.

Sensitive performances were given by Andrew Readman as Alan, Stevie Hannan as Mike and Emma Currie as Joan.

The Elephant Man

The Elephant Man staged by London's Westfield College, at the Greyfriars Kirkhouse, proved the expression *tour de force* to be more than a cliché.

The play succeeded on more than one level in exhibiting society's attitude to disabled people by exposing double-think, hypocrisy and religious cant, giving Victorian values *à la* Thatcher a hefty beating on the way.

The acting and stage craft were of the highest order. Two of the cast, Mark Beer and Jonathan Willis, who played the lead and directed, were disabled.

The play centres on the relationship between John Merrick, the Elephant Man, and Frederick Treves, a surgeon at the London hospital.

Treves rescued Merrick from a brutal and exploitative peep-show. From then on, Merrick was an object of interest to the great and notionally good — everyone from the future King Edward and Queen Alexandra downwards.

Treves says that his object is to make Merrick as normal as possible. But the play amply demonstrates that normal is something pretty grubby.

Issues are raised about social attitudes which are as topical now as then. Merrick ends the play quietly committing suicide by for once lying on his back like "normal" people.

Poetry Competition

The Spastics Society in Wales has launched its 2nd National Humorous Poetry Competition. Judges include Dafydd Wigley MP and Sir Harry Secombe. Competition sponsors Hoover have provided a 1st prize of £350. Entry forms from Andrew Morris, Humorous Poetry Competition, The Spastics Society, 382/384 Newport Road, Cardiff CF3 7UA. Send SAE. Closing date 30 November.

THEATRE

Keeping Tom Nice — "deeply depressing"

Angst-ridden and Ortonesque — that's the dominant tone of the RSC production of *Keeping Tom Nice* at the Almeida Theatre, London. Lucy Gannon's play is hardly light entertainment. Her humour is dry, verging on the black, revealed in memorable one-liners such as "There's a charity for everything these days."

Put simply, the theme is ostensibly an ordinary family coping with the stress and strains of looking after their son Tom, who has cp and epilepsy and is completely dependent on them.

However, Tom does not really emerge as the central character and I felt the piece was not so much about a physically disabled son as a mentally "crippled" father.

The title derives from the behaviour of Tom's mother in particular. She's so busy keeping everything related to Tom "nice" that she has no time to contribute the vital element of a mother-son relationship — or rather she makes sure she steeps herself in trivia in order to avoid the essentials, which actually demand more from the inner self.

It's also her way of coping to treat Tom like a fragile museum exhibit.

The writer is obviously well-read and has some perspicacious ideas, but at times she suffers from verbal diarrhoea, leaving her audience confused and exhausted. Some points needed expanding; others needed pruning.

Lucy Gannon's style is to use the repetition of certain lines for deliberate effect, eg Tom's sister just wants "to get him out", while the social worker (you'll



Linus Roache plays Tom — turned into a "fragile museum piece."

recognise him from his uniform) just wants "to get in".

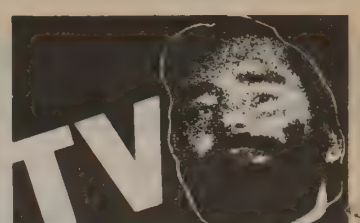
Poetic and Biblical allusions abound, for example Tom's father, Doug, envies Mary for having the satisfaction of at least seeing her son Jesus walk and talk before he died. Doug says to Tom in a frenzy, "I'd crucify you for just one word, one bloody word."

Once again an able-bodied actor sits in a wheelchair to play a disabled character. But I wonder if a disabled person would have agreed to play Tom anyway. The portrayal of disability is a bleak one and despite a few

well-observed moments, showing the frustration of a family constantly having to care for their disabled offspring or sibling, I felt the able-bodied characters were pushed to the extreme and broke the barriers of credibility.

Deeply disturbing, depressing even, more concerned with breakdown than breakthrough, the play could be described as anti-disability, and it's only recommendation is the strength of the individual performances by Henrietta Bess and Richard Conway.

Ellen Wilkie



Bill of wrongs

Disability was featured in both episodes of *The Bill* (Thames) in the week beginning 14 August. For a supposedly authentic programme, the storylines did not ring true.

The first episode concerned a major bus accident. The driver was found to be an epileptic who had not divulged his disability in order to get the job.

Even given that epileptics are easily discriminated against, I doubt whether anyone would be so irresponsible as to undertake that kind of job knowing the consequences of their disability. So this only reinforced a negative picture of epilepsy.

The second episode featured the victim of a mugging, who happened to have cerebral palsy. Well, the character had cp — the actor didn't!

Two policemen were, I think, meant to illustrate good and bad attitudes towards disability, one showing patience and willingness to persevere, the other being intolerant of the character's speech impediment. Yet the "good" guy still shouted at, rather than talked to, the cp character and described him to others as someone who couldn't walk, couldn't talk and was "a spastic".

The so-called contrast was blurred, turning what might have been the good intentions of the producers into an apparently token gesture. It would have been infinitely better had they decided to cast someone who actually had cp in the role.

To cover other programmes briefly, *We are the Champions Special* (BBC1, 18 August) resurrected itself for one edition of the competition which was always at the end of previous series. This event had three teams of disabled children competing against one another in contests created for the programme. Contest and commentary by Ron Pickering were good enough to deserve more than one programme.

Don't just sit there (C4, 4 September) was also about sport — demonstrations of what is available — and an adventure challenge competition.

Disabled people already into sport would have loved it. And it might have converted some who had not previously considered taking part. But I wonder what able-bodied people made of this seventy-five minute programme.

The contest was the most interesting for me, but even though there was a prize and a winner among the four teams, there was no indication of how they were doing after each round. So the excitement was diluted for the viewer.

The adventure challenge, just like *We are the Champions*, deserves a series. And not just for disabled sports men and women. Perhaps they could compete with able-bodied sports personalities, artificially handicapped to make everyone equal. This was acceptable for the old *Superstars* series, so why not extend it to disability sports?

Chris Davies

★ Chris tests the new accessible C&A store and clothes range One in Four, 25 October. Don't miss Rights Not Charity, Open Space, 13 October.

Look out for...

The Victoria and Albert Museum holds free guided tours for people with disabilities on the museum's history and collections. Tour dates: 6 & 20 October 12 noon and 3 pm; 1 November 11.15am and 2.15 pm; 3 & 17 November 12 noon and 3 pm; 1 & 15 December 12 noon and 3 pm, 6 December 11.15 am and 2.15 pm. For details, including access, contact the Chief Warder, tel: 01-938 8540/1.

The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden has extra wheelchair spaces for the following performances: Opera — Mozart's *Die Entführung aus dem Serail*, 26 September; Wagner's *Das Rheingold*, 8 October; Massenet's *Manon*, 29 November. Ballet — Triple bill of *Rhapsody*, *The Trial of Prometheus*, *Still Life* at the Penguin Cafe, 25 October; Triple bill of *Apollo*, *New Bintley Ballet* and *A Month in the Country*, 7 December. Tickets £7. Contact David Robinson on 01-240 1200.

A Disability Arts Day is planned by the Milton Keynes Disability Arts Forum for Halloween, 30 October, at the Woughton Centre, Milton Keynes. For details about the day and the forum's activities phone Pat Swell on (0296) 434704.

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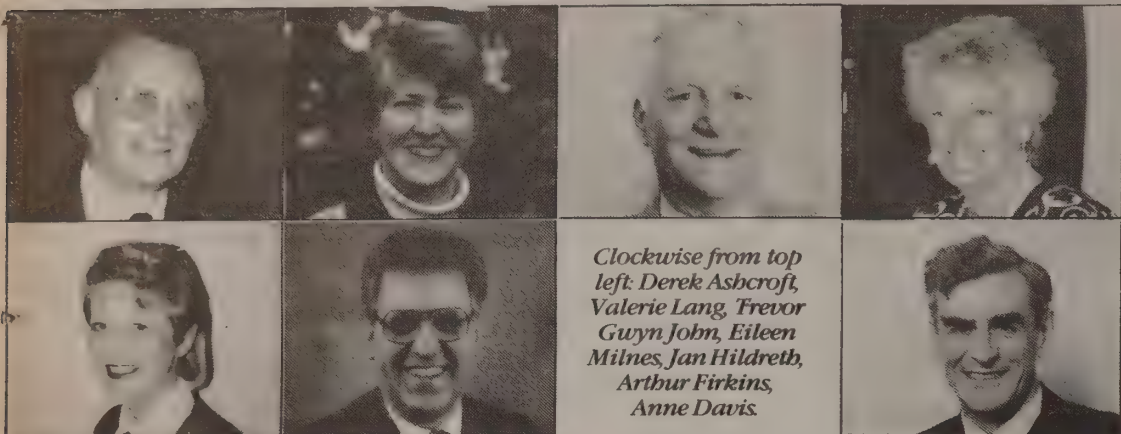
Postcode

Tel.

DN10

The Spastics Society's Executive Council candidates 1988

The Annual General Meeting will be held at Imperial College, Exhibition Road, London on 5 November

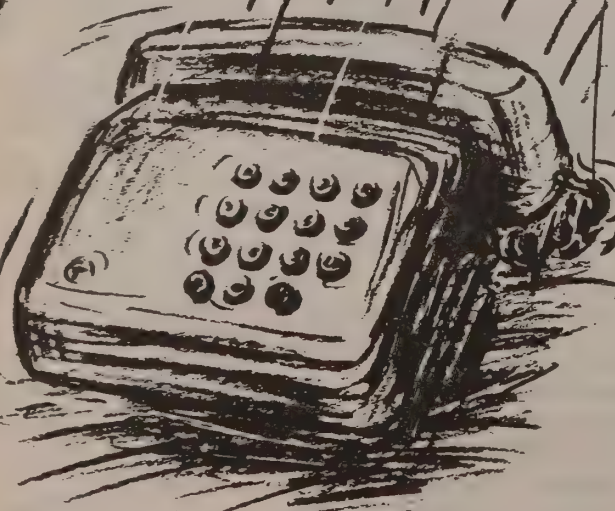


Clockwise from top left: Derek Ashcroft, Valerie Lang, Trevor Gwyn John, Eileen Milnes, Jan Hildreth, Arthur Firkins, Anne Davis

Anne Davis, 36, is a housewife who has personal experience of congenital disability and a son with cp. She founded the Parent Handicap Information Group in 1980, and is now its vice-chairman as well as administrator of PHIG's resource centre for families with handicapped children. She is on the Society's Social Services Advisory Committee and the London Regional Committee where she is treasurer of its Finance Sub-Committee. Special interests: the needs of local groups; support services for cp people and their families.

Derek Ashcroft*, 64, is a retired schoolmaster. He has been on the Executive Council since 1974, the last 7 years as vice-chairman. His experience includes chairing the Management Board and the Alpha Advisory Committee Constitutional Review, and being a member of the Personal Services Fund Committee and the Education Advisory Committee. He has been chairman of the South-East Regional Committee. He belongs to two local groups. Special interests: education; the development of micro-technology; service provision.

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Action for Disabled Customers

Valerie Lang*, 49, is a civil servant who has cp. Elected to the Executive Council in 1979, she has been vice-chairman for 2 years and a member of the Management Board and the Social Services Advisory Committee, and chairman of the Personal Services Committee. She belongs to the North London group. She is also a member of BR's Advisory Panel on Transport for the Disabled.

Special interests: cp people in the community; disabled children in mainstream education; disabled adults seeking appropriate medical services; the constitution and management of the Society.

Arthur Firkins, 49, is an accountant and college bursar. He has had 30 years experience with local groups and is chairman of the Cheltenham group and vice-chairman of the Society's West Regional Committee. He has been on the Society's Finance Committee since 1982. Special interests: occupational and residential facilities; education; care.

Jan Hildreth*, 55, banker and company director, has a son with cp. First elected to the Executive Council in 1980, he has served a total of 6 years and been a member of the Finance Committee for 8 years. He has also been on the Aids Advisory Group and now chairs the Senior Staff Salaries Committee. He is on the Board of Contact-a-Family. Special interests: education, particularly higher education; employment; fundraising.

Eileen Milnes*, 58, is a housewife who has a daughter with cp. She has been a member of the Executive Council for 11 years, chairs the Society's Social Services Advisory Committee and is on the Management Board. She is vice-chairman of the Society's East Regional Committee and a member of its Finance Sub-Committee. Special interests: lifestyle and environment of people with disabilities; moving the Society into the 1990s.

Trevor Gwyn John, 65, is a retired civil engineer with a cp daughter. He is chairman of the Society's Welsh Regional Committee and a member of its Finance Sub-Committee. He has been involved with the Society for 36 years, helped to found the Swansea group of which he is chairman, and led the team which reorganised Swansea Work Centre and the special needs unit.

Special interests: raising standards of care, training and development for cp people.

**Retiring Executive Council member seeking re-election.*

WHAT'S ON

Conferences and Leisure

Workshops for Disabled Women are held by the Women's Therapy Centre, 6-9 Manor Gardens, London N7 6LA, tel: 01-263 6200. Introduction workshop - 8 October. What makes a woman disabled? - 26, 29, 30 October. Session for mothers of children with disabilities - 19 November. Assertion training - 3 & 4 December.

Motor Neurone Disease. A seminar is being held by the Nottingham Resource Centre for the Disabled on 11 October, 9.30am - 4.00pm. The fee is £13.50 including lunch. For more details or to book please phone Denise on (0602) 420391.

Work Adjustment in Practice Workshop, 17-21 October, at City University, London. The course is aimed at OTs, employment rehabilitation centre managers, sheltered workshop staff etc. Further information from The Rehabilitation Resource Centre, City University, Northampton Square, London EC1V 0HB, tel: 01-253 4399 ext 4610.

Sheltered Housing - What Next? is a one-day conference, jointly organised by Help the Aged/Nestor Medical Services, at the Queen Elizabeth Conference Centre, London on 19 October. Details from Alison Grinter, Conference Associates HTA, Congress House, 55 New Cavendish Street, London W1M 7RE, tel: 01-486 0531.

I CAN Annual General Meeting, 20 October at the Glaziers Hall, London Bridge, 2.30pm. Dr Andrew Sutton, director of the Foundation for Conductive Education, will be the guest speaker. For more details tel: 01-608 2462 ext 215/216.

Aids for Living Exhibition, 28-30 October, at Perran Sands Exhibition Centre, Perranporth, Cornwall, 10am - 5pm daily. Information from Bruce Tidy, Cornwall Community Health Council, 7/8 Biddicks Court, St Austell, tel: (0726) 61855.

What shall I wear today? A study day highlighting dressing and clothing problems of adults who become physically disabled. 1 November, 9am - 4pm at the William Merritt Disabled Living Centre, St Mary's Hospital, Greenhill Road, Armley, Leeds LS12 3QE. Disabled people/carers £10, professionals £15. Tel: Clare Scott (0532) 793140.

What's New in Cerebral Palsy, is a study day on 4 November, 10am - 3.30pm at Guy's Hospital, London. Fee is £6. Numbers limited to 150 people. Tel: Diana Patterson on 01-407 7600 ext 3632.

The British Computer Society is holding 2 one-day conferences on 8 & 9 November at Sudbury House, Newgate Street, London EC1. Day 1 - Disabled Specialist Group 4th Annual Conference on "Computers in training and education - tools or toys?". Day 2 - IT Support for the Disabled Project, "Wake up to the possibilities". Enquiries to Pat Guntrip, 114 Chelmsford Road, Shenfield, Brentwood, Essex, tel: (0277) 227364.

Cerebral Palsy and its management is a 5-day course, 14-18 November for paediatricians, community doctors and GPs, organised by Riverside Health Authority and Cheyne Centre for Spastic Children. Applications from Courses Administrator, Cheyne Centre, 61 Cheyne Walk, London SW3, tel: 01-352 8434.

Disability and Rehabilitation in the Developing World is a 5-day conference 5-9 December at Baden Powell House, London, organised by IDEA (International Disability Education & Awareness). For anyone who works or has worked in developing countries or is interested. For details contact IDEA, William House, 101 Eden Vale Road, Westbury, Wiltshire, tel: (0373) 827635.

Courses at Castle Priory

Children with Autism - Teaching Basic Life Skills - a workshop for teachers, therapists, care staff and parents. (In association with staff of the National Autistic Society.) 4 - 6 November. Tuition £69. Residence £49. Non-residence £20.

Vocational Schemes for Adults with Learning Difficulties - suitable for ATC/SEC supervisors and staff and those involved in work experience schemes for people with mental disabilities. 7 - 9 November. Tuition £75. Residence £49. Non-residence £20.

Music, Art and Drama Workshop - for all categories of staff, volunteers and others working with children and adolescents who have special needs. 9 - 13 November. Tuition £89. Residence £98. Non-residence £38.

Further information from Castle Priory College, Thames Street, Wallingford, Oxon OX10 0HE. Please enclose SAE. Tel: (0491) 37551.



Are you lonely? Make the effort to meet people

On a crowded island like ours loneliness is a much greater problem than one might imagine.

There is, of course, a big difference between being lonely and being alone. Some people can be lonely in a crowd, while for others being alone is an enjoyable and fulfilling experience.

Some find it hard to make relationships; some have very few or no close friends. This may be more a question of personality than circumstance, though many people with disabilities do have special problems to cope with. Getting out and about may be difficult; communication may create barriers; shyness and lack of social skills can cause embarrassment.

For most of us, having a partner or close friend is very important. Many young people with disabilities are slow to establish adult relationships and for those who are elderly the loss of partners and friends leaves unfillable gaps in their lives.

This request is based on a conversation with Lin Berwick, *DN's* telephone counsellor.

"I feel so isolated these days. My husband died last year and we had been married for over fifty years.

Then six months ago I had a stroke. The hospital say that I've made a very good recovery, though my left side is weak and I can't walk very well.

I live in a sheltered flat, but we always managed on our own and I never had much to do with my neighbours.

The warden is helpful, but I can't ask her to do bits of ironing or to do up awkward fasteners. I worry about what would happen if I fell and couldn't get up again. Have you any suggestions?"

I can understand why you don't like to ask for help, having been so independent for so long. I am sure, however, that there will be other people in your housing complex who are also lonely and would like to meet with you from time to time.

Maybe you could do some things for a neighbour while she - or he - could help you with tasks that you find difficult? Why not try getting in touch with one or two people living near you? A cup of tea or coffee might be very welcome.

I think it would also be wise to enquire about a personal alarm/call system that would suit you, so that if you had a fall you could speak to someone straight away. Your warden, or the local Age Concern or social services department will be able to give you details.

Here are two recent letters,

Share Your Problems

With Margaret Morgan

raising similar problems of loneliness.

"I have a son, David, who has mild cerebral palsy. He is 28 years of age and very lonely. He would very much like to meet a girl like himself. He saw a copy of *Disability Now* in which there was an item on the Handicate agency. We have been in touch with them and they charge £30 to belong. We want to be sure that they are genuine and I would like to know if you checked the agency out before you published the details.

We would also be glad of details of any other organisations that David might find helpful. There must be a lot of people about with the same problem."

We are very glad that you have written to us. Handicate is a *bona fide* agency (a member of the Associations of British Introduction Agencies) run by a young disabled man. We have good news of the work of Handicate and there have been several engagements as a result of their introductions.

Your son might also be interested to put a classified advertisement in *DN's* Find A Friend column. There is no charge. An increasing number of readers are

using this column successfully.

Social clubs, like PHAB and the Outsiders, where people who are disabled and able-bodied enjoy activities together, may be of interest to your son. The Outsiders Club is for mature men and women who are particularly looking for friends and partners and they have published a useful reference book, *Practical Suggestions*.

I hope that one or more of these ideas will be helpful to David.

"I haven't had a proper holiday this year and I am wondering if I should try a group holiday especially for single people at Christmas time. I am rather lonely and haven't any close friends, even though I work in a big office. I have a handicap which I feel makes me unattractive to others, but maybe it's because I don't make enough effort. Any ideas?"

A special holiday at Christmas sounds a very good idea. Your local travel agency will be able to give you information about suitable singles holidays, but do explain to them just what you have in mind.

How about doing something before Christmas? There are singles clubs and introduction agencies in many areas, or you might like to consider sharing your special interests by going to a class or local meeting. Keep an eye open for events publicised in your local paper and in the library. What about inviting a colleague from the office to go along with you?

Good luck!

Handicate, see address page 19. PHAB (Physically Handicapped and Able-Bodied), Tavistock House North, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9HX. Tel: 01-388 1963. The Outsiders Club, Box 42B, London W1A 4ZB. Tel: 01-741 3332.

DN's telephone counsellor has new number

If you want advice on a personal or spiritual problem, why not talk to Lin Berwick, *Disability Now's* telephone counsellor, who is disabled herself?

Lin is at the end of the line on Monday afternoons from 1pm to 5pm, and on Thursdays from 6pm to 10pm.

Her new telephone number is Hornchurch (04024) 77582.

The Versatile



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EASE OF USE ● drive from your wheelchair ● easy access ● controls within fingers reach ● automatic transmission ● electric start

SECURITY ● wheelchair locking system (seat also available) ● steel chassis safetyframe ● three wheel stability ● free driver training ● free first year AA membership

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INFORMATION OFFICER

2/3 days per week
Salary £11,750 p.a. pro rata

Further information
telephone: 01-607 8851

A HANDICAPPED CHILD?

I find Nannies and Mother's Helps for families with special needs.

The jobs are demanding, rewarding and varied throughout Britain (some abroad). The carers are dedicated, trained/untrained, experienced/inexperienced, but all requiring "more than just a job". Please phone Torna Russell-Hills on 01-221 5894 or send A4 S.A.E. to Special Care Agency, 1st Floor, 45 Pembroke Road, London W11 3HG.

Member F.R.E.S. EMP AGENCY



LET US TRY AND HELP YOU FIND A PARTNER

All enquiries to: HANDICATE
The Wellington Centre
52 Chevalier Street
Ipswich, Suffolk IP1 2PB
Telephone: (0473) 226950



In August 26 readers and 6 organisations generously donated a total of £532 to Disability Now.

Thank you to:

Mr Gordon Adams, Exmouth, Devon
Mr & Mrs Ashall, Oxford
Suselle Boffey, Edinburgh
Miss M Boyle, Livingston, W Lothian
Cheltenham & District Spastics Association
Church Action on Disability, Exeter
Mr E Conway, Daventry, Northants
Deptford Mission to the Physically Handicapped, London
Mr & Mrs D Eighteen, Colchester
Miss A Garton, Oadby, Leics
Audrey Gray, High Heaton, Newcastle-upon-Tyne
Mr Robert Holmes, Sudbury, Suffolk
Wendy Howarth, Carnforth, Lancs
Jersey Spastics Society (Inc)
Mrs M Lacey, Codnor, Derby
Mrs C Love, Wotton-under-Edge, Glos
Mr & Mrs Makin, Pembrey, Dyfed
G Massey, Urmston, Manchester
Mrs S McQuire, Farnham, Surrey
L Newton, Eastbourne, E Sussex
Mr P Palteau, Brussels, Belgium
Mr G Petty, Airdrie, Lanarkshire
Claire Pinches, Wirral, Merseyside
Pride of Morden Lodge No 7132
Mr C Rawson, Gainsborough, Lincs
C Retford, Workson & District Spastics Society, Notts
Mr F Stevenson, Fleckney, Leics
Thurrock & District Spastics Society
R Turner, Northfleet, Kent
Miss S Walker, Huddersfield, W Yorks
Mrs G Walsby, Burnham on Sea
David Watkins, Salisbury, Wilts
Mr W Webster, Bradford, W Yorks

To join them, please send your cheque or postal order (made out to The Spastics Society) to Gayle Mooney, Room 2B, Disability Now, Freepost 12 Park Crescent, London W1E 3FB.

ARTS MEDIA GROUP requires

PUBLICATIONS ADMINISTRATOR (17 and a half hours per week) for 'DISABILITY ARTS IN LONDON' Magazine

A variety of skills and interests could be relevant. Write in for more information.

Salary £10,500 (pro rata).

Contact: Arts Media Group, c/o Artsline,

5 Crowndale Road, NW1 1TU. Tel. 01-387 5911.

We are looking for a disabled person to fill this post.

Closing date for application is 25th October 1988.

AMG is an equal opportunities employer.

ARTS MEDIA GROUP

NORTHWEST SHAPE TWO POSTS

Fieldworker - disabled people - Full time - 35 hours

NW Shape wishes to appoint a fieldworker to promote and support disabled people's creative activities. Initially the post will require an element of research in order to identify the creative needs of a wide range of disabled people in the Greater Manchester area. The post will be mainly organisational rather than directly creative. A successful applicant will be expected to be accountable to his/her users (disabled people). Skills required: organisation and administration, group work and negotiation and an active interest in art and disability. Salary £8,988-£9,255 (pay award pending). This post is only open to disabled people.

Administrative Assistant - Part time - 17½ hours

NW Shape requires a part-time assistant with the ability to help organise and carry on the day to day running of the office. Good typing and secretarial skills are essential for this post as is an interest in art and disability. Salary £7,122-£7,833 pro rata (pay award pending). Applications from disabled people are particularly welcome for this post.

For further information and job descriptions please contact

NW Shape, The Green Prefab, behind Shoregrove School, Cavendish Road, Manchester M20 8JR. Tel: 061 434 8666.

Closing date for completed applications Monday October 31, 1988

London Borough of Camden

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S DEPARTMENT

DISABILITIES RESOURCE UNIT
Services Officer

PO3. £16,123 - £17,421 pa inc. (Pay Award Pending)

To be responsible for initiating, developing and monitoring the implementation of policies on disabilities.

A Disability facilitator and appropriate equipment are provided within the unit.

You must have direct personal experience of disability, positive approach towards disability issues: a commitment to anti-sexist, anti-racist and anti-heterosexist working practices.

Ref: 1A/25

Apply for further details, including short listing criteria and job description to: Departmental Personnel Officer, Room 220, Town Hall, Euston Road, London, NW1 2EU. Tel: 01-860 3633 (Ansafone). Closing date: 26th September, 1988.

Camden Services

equal opportunity employer

Applicants are considered on the basis of their suitability for the post, with equal opportunities for women, black/ethnic minorities, lesbians and gay men and people with disabilities, and regardless of marital status, age, creed/religion and unrelated criminal conviction. All posts are open for job-sharing.

LEISURE SERVICES OFFICERS

Scale 5 Salary £8,988-£9,561

Two energetic, vibrant, individuals are required to fill the newly established posts of Leisure Services Officers. One appointment will be based in Nottingham and the other in either Hertfordshire or Buckinghamshire.

The successful applicants will be responsible for the development and promotion of leisure opportunities for people with cerebral palsy and initiate plans and develop programmes of activities in conjunction with the Leisure Services Manager. Preference will be given to candidates who themselves have a disability.

For application form and job description, please contact Lucy Anderson, Leisure Services Manager, The Spastics Society, Canningford House, 38 Victoria St, Bristol BS1 6BY. Tel: (0272) 250712. Closing date 28th October 1988.

THE SPASTICS SOCIETY

An Equal Opportunity Employer

Bobath Day Courses for Teachers Working with Children who have Cerebral Palsy.

1. Integrating the young child with Cerebral Palsy into the normal classroom. Date: Monday 6th March 1989. Time: 9am-5pm. Course fee £30.00.
2. The child with multiple handicaps in school. Date: Tuesday 7th March 1989. Time: 9am-5pm. Course fee £30.00.

Both courses will include lectures and demonstrations. Programmes are available from the Bobath Centre, 5 Netherhall Gardens, London, NW3 5RN or telephone: 01-435 3895. A list of accommodation near the Centre can be supplied.

DIRECTOR

We are an independent co-ordinating agency with a staff of 15 and a membership of over 60 organisations working in the disability field across London. We are committed to working towards the full integration of disabled people into the community and we develop our policies and practices in consultation with disabled people and their representatives in London.

We are looking for a new Director to lead GLAD through a challenging and exciting period for the disability field. S/he will be responsible for the overall management and development of the agency in accordance with GLAD's aims and in line with policies and priorities determined by GLAD's Executive Committee. S/he must have a keen awareness and understanding of disability issues and be committed to ensuring that good equal opportunities practice is integrated into all areas of GLAD's work. Experience of working with voluntary and statutory disability organisations and groups, and of planning and management of staff and resources is essential. S/he must have a high level of initiative and enjoy a challenge.

Salary: NJC Scale PO5 £18,651-£19,884 p.a.

(including London Weighting).

Closing date for applications: 26th October 1988

Further details and application form (available on tape and floppy diskette) from

Stephanie Elsy,
GLAD, 336 Brixton Road, SW9 7AA. Tel: 01-274 0107

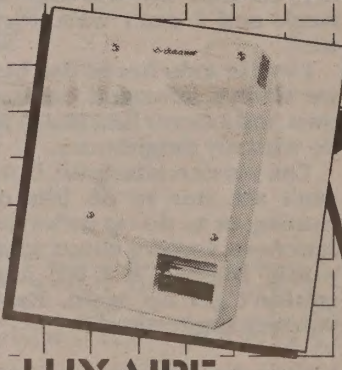
We are working towards becoming an Equal Opportunities employer. Applications are open to all but, since GLAD is currently under represented by disabled people at senior management level, preference will be given to disabled applicants who meet all the essential requirements for the post. Our offices are fully accessible and we will make every effort to provide for individual needs.

GLAD receives funding from the London Boroughs Grants Scheme.

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- MATERNITY MODEL AVAILABLE.

Luxaire body dryer is an invaluable aid for the weak, handicapped or disabled who may not be able to dry themselves with a towel in the conventional way.

- DRIES THE BODY WITH WARM AIR.
- DRY IN PRIVACY, WITHOUT ASSISTANCE. CAN BE USED WHEN SEATED IN WHEEL OR SHOWER-CHAIR.
- SIMPLE WALL SCREW FITTING.
- POWERFUL FAN HEATER DIRECTS WARM AIR FROM TOP TO TOE.
- FULLY GUARANTEED (PARTS AND LABOUR) FOR ONE YEAR.
- NO OTHER BATHROOM HEATING IS REQUIRED IN MOST CASES.
- HAND FREE HAIR DRYING.

'Caring' products from the company with over 25 years of experience in the field of personal hygiene.

Automatic taps - no knobs, no push buttons or pedals.

The flow of water is controlled by an electronic photo-cell. To obtain water, simply place hands under the tap, and on removal the water flow will automatically stop.

An incorporated mixer regulates the water temperature.

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Automatic VULCANO electronic hand-drier and ETNA soap/disinfectant dispenser work by means of an optical sensory device. When hands are presented the unit is activated and as soon as hands are removed, the unit stops instantly.

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- PRACTICAL: COMFORTABLE AND PRACTICAL.
- HYGIENIC: TOTAL HYGIENE, OPERATES WITHOUT PHYSICAL CONTACT, THEREFORE ALSO ENSURING TOTAL SAFETY.



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EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES OFFICER DISABLED PEOPLE

Temporary, Maternity Leave Cover

S01/2 £11,322-£13,173

A key member of our Equal Opportunities Unit is taking maternity leave in September. We need someone to cover her work - on employment issues and co-ordination of the Council's access programme - for a period of up to 48 weeks or until the permanent postholder returns from Maternity Leave.

You will need:

- ★ to have worked in disabled people's groups and know the issues facing disabled people
- ★ to be an excellent communicator
- ★ experience of work in local government or be able to show that you have successfully brought about change within an organisation.

Appointment to this post will be made from applicants who are themselves disabled.

For application form, job description and more information write to **The Staff Office, Chief Executive's Department, PO Box 532, Town Hall, Manchester M60 2LA** or 'phone 061-234 3077, and should be returned as soon as possible.

The City Council operates a Union Membership Agreement under which any new employee is required to become a member of a recognised Trade Union.

Manchester City Council is an Equal Opportunity Employer, and we positively welcome applications from women and men, regardless of their racial, ethnic or national origin, disability, age up to 65, sexuality or responsibilities for dependants.

MANCHESTER
City Council

Defending Jobs - Improving Services

Would you like to work in a lively, arts orientated atmosphere?

Greater London Arts wishes to recruit a fifth member to its recently established secretarial team

SECRETARIAL SUPPORT STAFF

to work initially with Directorate and support units.

You'll assist:

- with filing, photocopying, taking notes and producing minutes, typing correspondence, routine papers and reports
- with the routine running of the unit to which you're attached
- providing back-up services to the organisation, such as occasional switch-board and reception duties

You'll need:

- experience of working in a busy office and the ability to work under pressure
- secretarial skills including typing and wordprocessing (at least 60wpm)

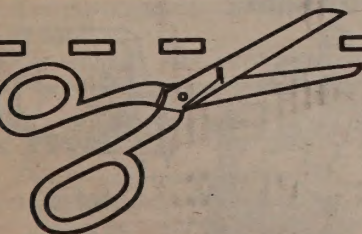
The ability to adhere to the Association's Equal Opportunities Policy is essential.

Salary scale: NJC Spinal Points 14-20, £8,622-£9,942 including London Weighting.

For full details and application form send a postcard to: **The Director, Greater London Arts, 9 White Lion Street, London N1 9PD.** Or leave a message on GLA's ansaphone: **01-278 1976.** Please quote ref: SEC 9.

Closing date for receipt of completed applications: **Monday 17 October 1988.**

Greater London Arts Welcomes applications from all sections of the community irrespective of an individual's sex, race, colour, ethnic or national origin, marital status, sexual orientation, disabilities, age, political or religious belief, or responsibility for dependants.



Hackney Council employs a vast range of people with a variety of skills. And we need additional staff in all areas of the organisation so that we can continue to improve the services we provide for local people. We have regular vacancies for staff in each department, from Social Services to Finance, and work opportunities range from managerial and technical staff to administrators clerical workers and qualified professionals. If you are interested in finding out more about a career with one of the most innovative Local Councils in the capital, complete the coupon and we will send you a copy of our weekly

vacancy bulletin which contains details of all jobs available and how to apply.

Hackney is serious about Equal Opportunities. All applications for jobs are considered on merit, with equal opportunities for women, black and ethnic minorities, lesbians and gay men and people with disabilities. Job share applications are welcomed with or without a partner.

Drop into our job shop at the Town Hall and look around or return the coupon, to: The Recruitment Office, Town Hall, Mare Street, London E8 1EA or telephone 01-986 3123 ext 211 or 215.

Please send me your weekly vacancy bulletin

Name.....
Address.....

Ref: DN.

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HACKNEY COUNCIL
Working for local people

HOLIDAYS

THORNBURY HALL HOTEL, Churnet Valley. Specialised facilities for all disabilities. Companion service available (no extra cost) to allow all the family to enjoy themselves. Conference facilities and study/craft courses available on request. Colour TV in all bedrooms, single rooms available. Games room. Hotel stands in 5 acres of ground amidst beautiful countryside. Prices from £21.50 a day full board. For a brochure contact Thornbury Hall Hotel, Lockwood Road, Kingsley Holt, Stoke on Trent, Staffs ST10 2DH, tel: (0538) 757220.

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FIND A FRIEND

To reply to a Find a Friend advert, indicate the Box Number clearly, mark the envelope Private & Confidential and send it to Disability Now, address on back page.

WOMAN, 68, would like to write to a disabled person in the southern area. Quiet but cheerful. Box No 16.

24-YEAR-OLD MAN with cp seeks female friend between 18-25 who can walk and is interested in pop music, camping and helping people. Box No 12.

Can you keep us up to date on the arts?
Help GLA inform and be informed, apply for the new post of

INFORMATION AND RESEARCH OFFICER

for **GREATER LONDON ARTS**
London's Regional Arts Association

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- become a member of the PR and Publications team, providing an information service for the Association and arts organisations
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You'll need -

- good writing and communications skills and the ability to undertake simple research on given projects
- the ability to adhere to deadlines
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Salary scale: NJC spinal points 26-32, £11,691-£13,932 inclusive of London Weighting (under review).

Write on a postcard for full details and application form to:

The Director, Greater London Arts, 9 White Lion Street, London, N1 9PD. Or leave a message on GLA's ansaphone: **01-278 1976.** Please quote Ref: INF 6.

Closing date for receipt of applications **Monday 31 October, 1988.**

Greater London Arts welcomes applications from all sections of the community irrespective of an individual's sex, race, colour, ethnic or national origin, marital status, sexual orientation, disabilities, age, political or religious belief or responsibility for dependants.

• SOCIAL • SERVICES • FIELDWORK •

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a new deal at Haringey

£11,679-£14,997 for newly qualified staff or

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We have vacancies in some of our Area Teams and we are keen to recruit staff who will develop services and implement change.

We are an outer London Borough with many of the characteristics of an inner London environment. Haringey has, in consequence, many of the problems of an inner London Borough and the case load of Social Workers therefore requires ability to cover a range of complex cases. In recognition of this, a new deal is being offered to Social Workers, offering progression to a higher salary, and a higher intake salary for experienced workers.

Haringey Social Services is committed to implementing equal opportunity policies both for service delivery and employment. In return for your commitment we can offer an interesting variety of work to broaden your experience and:

- Balanced agreed workload being developed
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- Training and Development opportunities
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- Generous local conditions and leave entitlement
- Essential user car allowance plus car loan facilities

If you have a CQSW and would like to find out more about working in one of our Area Teams, give us a ring and we'll send you the information pack - Working for Haringey.

We particularly welcome applications from Asian, Cypriot and Afro-Caribbean communities under Section 38, Race Relations Act 1976 as they are under-represented in the work force.

Application forms and job descriptions from Director of Social Services, 40 Cumberland Road, Wood Green, N22 4SG or telephone our 24 hour answering service on 01-881 4704 quoting job title and reference number 318.

Closing date: 14th October 1988.

"Haringey is working towards becoming an equal opportunities employer. Applicants are considered on the basis of the suitability for the post with equal opportunities for all, including women, black people, people from ethnic communities, lesbians and gays and people with disabilities, and regardless of marital status, age, religion, class and unrelated criminal conviction."

HARINGEY COUNCIL

EEC may abolish VAT relief on disability items

Prices of aids and equipment for elderly and disabled people could rise by 4 per cent or more in 1992 if European Commission proposals to abolish zero-rated VAT go ahead.

As part of the move to break down barriers between EEC countries, the Commission proposes that VAT rates should be more uniform. All would have two VAT bands: 4-9 per cent for "social goods" and 14-20 per cent for the rest.

"Social goods" include food, energy for heat and light, water, pharmaceutical products and appliances (eg wheelchairs), publications and transport.

In the UK all these things are now zero-rated. If the proposals go ahead a £400 wheelchair, for example, would cost £16 more.

Charities and children's clothes and shoes would face the higher tax of 14-20 per cent.

"Charities already collectively pay well over £100 million a year in VAT," said Barry Gifford

of the Charities VAT and Tax Reform Group. "Think of the services we could provide with that money. That bill would increase by 2 or 3 times."

The Government has pledged to fight the proposals and last month a VAT Action Campaign was launched by the Retail Consortium and the CECG (Consumers in the European Community Group), with the backing of organisations for consumers, elderly and disabled people and charities. They are calling for the lower VAT band to range from 0-6 per cent.

"The Commission has ignored the social consequences of its proposals for all consumers, but particularly for low income families, elderly and disabled people and for charities," said Janet Graham, chairman of the CECG. "If it had deliberately set out to devise a plan which put the greatest burden on those least able to afford it, it could not have done so more effectively."



School bars disabled boy

An 11-year-old disabled boy who won a place at a grammar school in the Wirral has been denied it because the school is not accessible.

Philip Reilly, who has a muscular disorder and uses a wheelchair, was in the top 25 per cent to pass the 11-plus exam last spring and was offered a place at Wirral Grammar School. Six weeks later the offer was withdrawn because the school said adaptations would be too costly.

The area's 3 other grammar schools are also inaccessible so Philip was offered a place at a nearby comprehensive. But his parents were not satisfied.

"Philip's talents are academic, not practical, and the comprehensive seemed more geared to practical students," said his mother, Ruby Reilly. "If there is a selective system and they have got through that selection they are entitled to a place."

Last month Philip started as a new boy at the private, accessible Birkenhead School, at a cost of £2,195 a year.

"Philip is settled where he is now," said Mrs Reilly. "We just want people to be aware of how disabled children are being dis-

criminated against."

David Rigby, deputy director of education for Wirral Education Authority, said there is a programme for converting schools, but grammars are last on the list.

"The authority recognises now it will have to make early efforts to see that grammar schools are adapted," he said.

John Butcher, the junior education minister, has promised to investigate.

Minister axes Commission

Following the TUC's withdrawal of support for the Employment Training Programme (ET), Employment Secretary Norman Fowler has abolished the Training Commission and taken over responsibility for its activities.

Half the ET programmes are run by the public and voluntary sectors, and unions could still stop councils providing places or funding voluntary organisation places.

Several councils have already announced they will not support the programme.

"It is too early to be sure what the effects on voluntary organisations and disabled individuals will be," says Peter Little, chair of the Voluntary Sector Coordinating Group on Special Employment Measures, which negotiated with the Training Commission over ET.

"There is very little evidence that local authorities will cut funds for voluntary organisations, but we shall have to see."

"Our main concern is that the high standard of consultation with disability organisations by the Training Commission continues with its successor."

The TUC rejected ET because it said it was underfunded and offered poor quality training.

A.C.T.T. FIELD OFFICERS

ACTT, the Film and Broadcasting Union, seeks to appoint four Field Officers to be based in Glasgow, Bristol, Manchester and London. The successful applicants' duties will include organisation, recruitment and negotiation in all sectors of the Union's membership, including ITV, freelance and independent production, educational technology, film processing and local radio.

Field Officers, will be immediately responsible to National Officials based at the Union's Head Office. Experience of the trade union movement, energy, and good communication skills are desirable. The ability to drive will be an asset.

Salary is £14,250 p.a. and other terms and conditions are in accordance with the ACTT/APEX Agreement.

ACTT is an equal opportunities employer and applications are welcome regardless of sex, race, ethnic origin or sexuality. We are committed to increasing employment opportunities for people with disabilities and, although these jobs are open to any applicants, applications from people with disabilities will be particularly welcome.

For an application form and full job description, please telephone The General Secretary, 111 Wardour Street, London W1V 4AY (Tel: 01-437 8506). Closing date for receipt of applications - Monday, 24th October 1988.



OUR POLICY IS CLEAR

Flick through the pages of any paper, and you'll come across the term Equal Opportunities.

Sadly, it's often used by those who don't 'practice what they preach'.

But at the London Fire and Civil Defence Authority, we are actively striving towards Equal Opportunities in the truest sense.

We don't discriminate on any grounds - be it race, sex, colour, sexual orientation, age, disability, religious or political beliefs.

So if you would like to work in an organisation which is only concerned with your ability to tackle the work at hand, contact us to receive details of our current vacancies: Recruitment Section (REO/9), LFCDA, Room 607, Queensborough House, 12-18 Albert Embankment, London SE1. Tel: 01-587 4860/4875 (ansaphones). Please quote reference DN.

The London Fire and Civil Defence Authority - A Genuine Equal Opportunities Employer.

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If you would like DN on tape contact Gayle Mooney on 01-636 5020 ext 244. For DN on disc (5" BBC "B", Amstrad CPC 6128) contact Steve Barnard on (02407) 4231.

Disability Now

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Editor Mary Wilkinson
Assistant Editor Karen Wingate

Reporter Julian Marshall
Editorial Secretary Geraldine Holden

Circulation Gayle Mooney
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